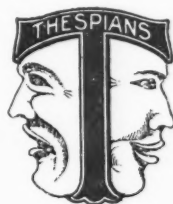


THE HIGH SCHOOL THESPIAN

Vol. IV

Fairmont, W. Va.

No. 1



IN THIS ISSUE:

ORGANIZATION FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB

An article of primary importance for the progressive director of dramatics.

AUTUMN, 1932

A Magazine Devoted to High School Dramatics

THE NATIONAL THESPIANS

Qualifications for Membership



Section 1. A regularly enrolled student of a high school, or academy, of satisfactory scholarship, who has played with merit in a major role of one long play, or two one-act plays, staged by the institution, and has done work of such quality as to be approved by the director shall be eligible to membership in The National Thespians.

Sec. 2. Minor speaking parts in three long plays, or four one-act plays may be accepted as meeting the requirements of membership.

Sec. 3. Efficient work as business manager, stage manager for two long plays may be accepted as meeting the requirements of membership.

Sec. 4. Staff work, such as carpenter, property man, electrician, or work in scene painting, costume making and designing, may be credited toward membership as equivalent to minor roles.

Sec. 5. Definition of Major and Minor Roles. To be a major role, a character must appear in not less than two acts with not less than seventy speeches. Minor roles of thirty or more speeches

will count as equivalent to a major role in a short play. At the discretion of the director, parts requiring much pantomime, or very difficult acting may be considered a major role.

Sec. 6. A student who has written a play that is produced may be appointed to membership.

Sec. 7. The power of conferring membership in The National Thespians shall be placed in the hands of the member of the faculty assigned to the direction of the dramatic activities, or a committee from the faculty, of which he shall be chairman.

Sec. 8. The director may raise the requirement of membership to more than a major role, but may not lower this requirement.

Sec. 9. Honorary members. Individuals not students in a high school, or not a member of the faculty, may be elected to membership only for distinctly dramatic services, or for financial assistance in promoting dramatics.

—National Constitution.

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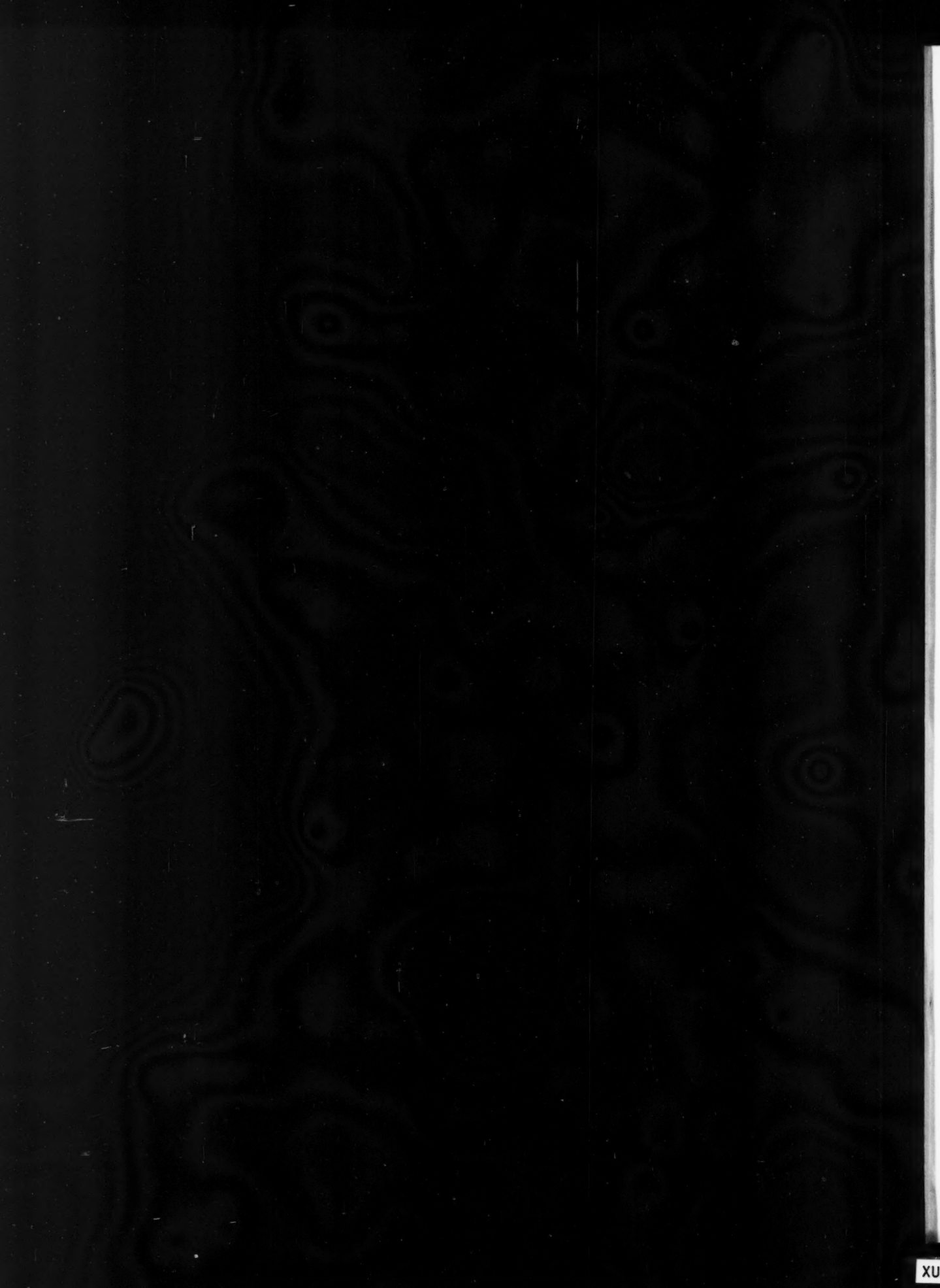
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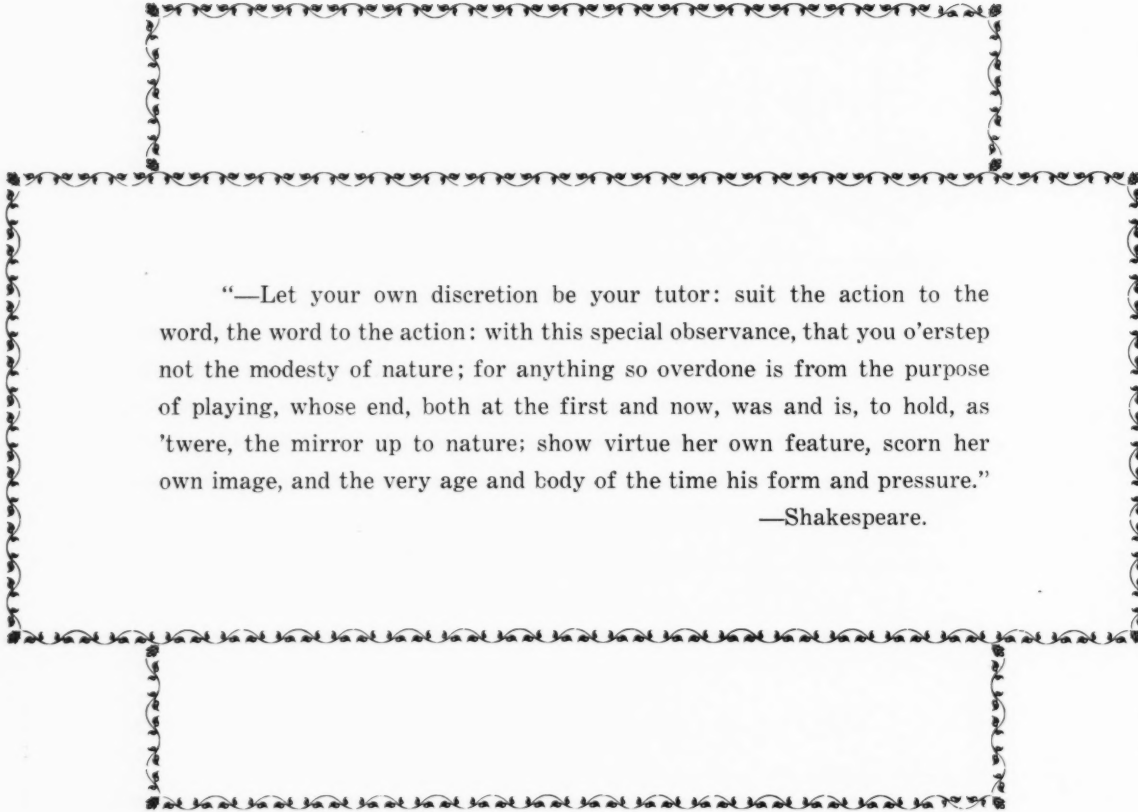
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The High School THESPIAN




*A Magazine
Devoted To
High School Dramatics*



“—Let your own discretion be your tutor: suit the action to the word, the word to the action: with this special observance, that you o’erstep not the modesty of nature; for anything so overdone is from the purpose of playing, whose end, both at the first and now, was and is, to hold, as ’twere, the mirror up to nature: show virtue her own feature, scorn her own image, and the very age and body of the time his form and pressure.”

—Shakespeare.



The High School THESPIAN

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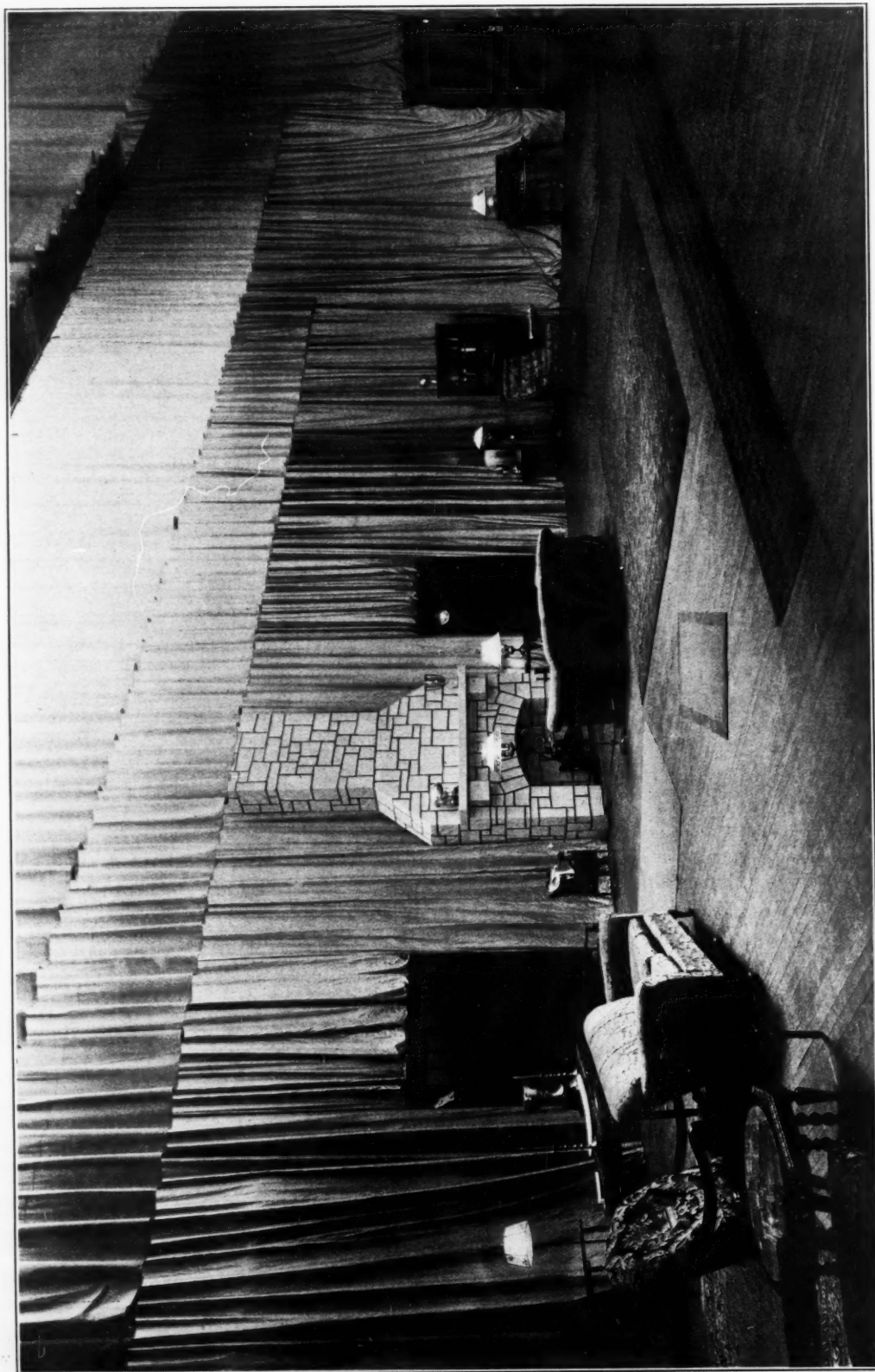
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CONTENTS



ORGANIZATION FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB.....	5
ASSEMBLIES—Don T. Brennan.....	8
CHILDREN'S THEATER—A project for High School Thespians..... By Laura Saunders	10
A MARIONETTE PLAY—Gwendolyn Fuller	12
SUGGESTIONS FOR A HIGH SCHOOL PLAY CAST—Lena M. Shippy.....	14
A PROJECT IN STAGECRAFT—G. H. Hoehner.....	15
FROM OUR THESPIAN TROUPES.....	16
ROYALTY REDUCTIONS FOR 1932-33	22
THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK.....	25
AMONG OUR BEST THESPIANS.....	27
TROUPE REPORTS	33
MEMBERSHIP ROLL	73

The High School Thespian is published annually in the behalf of high school dramatics. It is furnished free of charge to members of The National Thespians; 50 cents a copy to non-members. Articles dealing with high school dramatics solicited. Articles not used will be returned only when accompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelope.



Stage set for "HOUSE PARTY", as produced at Newport News High School, Newport News, Va.
Miss Dorothy M. Crane, Director and Sponsor Troupe No. 122

ORGANIZATION FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB*

A recent survey of the amateur theatre throughout the United States showed that as many as six thousand high schools have courses in dramatic art in the curriculum and that as many more have dramatic organizations though no definite instruction. One high school in California presented over a hundred plays during the past session and the combined high schools of Cleveland staged over four hundred productions during the same time.

The reasons for these numerous productions, as well as many others, are two-fold. First, acting is used as a means of forming and correcting personality in many schools. The purpose is not so much to develop actors as to mold individuals. Thus the braggart boy is cast as the quiet and reserved chap and the timid little girl is cast as the beautiful heroine. Both teachers and psychiatrists have been greatly pleased with the results of such experiments. Second, through a study of the methods of dramatic art in the secondary school, the students will become greater influences in spread of the amateur theatre movement over the entire country, will become more appreciative theatre-goers, and at the same time train themselves in an art which offers worth-while recreation to many.

Unsupervised play production is not profitable to the student, but when properly directed it can be a means of preserving the dramatic instinct in the child and developing a part of the child otherwise neglected by present-day methods of education. For any dramatic group, whether it be in the school or in the community, to carry out its policy effectively and permanently, a well-founded organization is necessary. In the case of the school the student group should be headed by a competent faculty director. The organization should be flexible to the extent that there is ever room for creative ability. The policy should be broad enough as to include plays which are both educational and popular, educational to the extent that the time of the students will not be wasted and popular to the extent that interest will never

die. Variety in the types of plays presented will insure longevity of interest on the part of the students and the auditors.

In the formulating of the club greater emphasis should be placed upon the organization for each production than upon that of the regular club. Instruction in the various branches of play production should be given to the students by the director and his assistants. The greatest benefit will be brought about for the student by having him do the work under the supervision of the trained director rather than the director doing much of the work himself. Thus will gradually

arise a body of well-trained students to carry on the work of the producing group and to establish a reputation and precedent for the club.

There will be two branches of the club, the one general organization, the personnel of which is changed only once a year, and the more important and more frequently changed organization for each production.

The Permanent Organization

The club must have some means of carrying on from year to year so that the continuity of its work may be preserved. At the head of this department is the **President**, an interested student who has had

long enough experience with the club to give him a thorough knowledge of its workings. The duties of the president are those of the head of any parliamentary organization.

The **Secretary's** duties are very heavy in a wide-awake club. It is the secretary who carries on all of the business correspondence, does press work from time to time to keep the activities of the group before the public, and files all clippings and notices which might be of future interest.

The **Treasurer** is the custodian of the funds. He works with the business manager of the separate productions in the selling of tickets and the paying of bills. In some clubs where much money is handled the treasurer is a faculty member.

A **Caretaker** of the club's property is needed. It is this person's duty to keep safely all scenery, stage equipment, lighting, fixtures, etc.

A WORD TO HIGH SCHOOL ACTORS

Be ever alert to make your role above the mediocre. Therein lies the boundless satisfaction that will pay you for all your hard work. Make of your role a work of art, inspired by your study and intelligent interpretation. Say to yourself, "This single chance will never come to me again. Life is so full of regrets for things left undone. I am determined to come off the stage knowing I have done my very best, feeling no regrets and only happiness for worthy achievement." When you put into rehearsals the work which your director knows will make it possible for you to say these things to yourself, and feel your efforts well repaid, you have reached above the ordinary to at least an ideal, and in reaching for this ideal you have come to realize a measure of greatness.—By **EARL W. BLANK**, National Director.

* Publication of The Virginia Drama League.

Executive Council

The faculty director, the president of the club, the secretary, and one or two other students should compose the executive council, whose duties are to outline policies for the club, make plans, offer decisions, all to be brought before the entire membership of the club for final approval. The members of this council should have a sincere interest in the welfare of the group, because this group is really the brain of the organization.

Membership

There should be a place in the club for each student who expresses his interest in some concrete way. A prospective student should be assigned to some task, and if he shows any ability he should be asked to become a member of the club. After the organization has become well founded certain degrees of membership should be outlined, promotions being made in accordance with the interest and ability of the student.



Act I from "THE ENEMY"
Produced by Webster Groves High School, Webster Groves, Mo.
Under the direction of Eugene R. Wood.

Students interested in acting should be under the supervision of the faculty director; students interested in stage craft under the stage manager; and students interested in business under the treasurer and business manager. Each of these persons training new students should be quick to recognize any well-done work and offer proper encouragement and rewards. The work of the entire club is under the indirect supervision of the director. Students should be encouraged to become interested in other phases of the work than acting. The ideal organization has one actor to three or four students doing other work. Since the welfare of the student must be considered, for the club exists for the student and not the student for the club, he should be allowed to work in the different departments so that he may get the greatest benefit from his experience.

The Director

The director should be a faculty member competent to guide the whole process of producing a play, the "mater mind" of the group. He may

lack at first the sure touch which comes only from experience, but love for the work, along with tact, patience, and the capacity for inspiring others, will cause him to become a force for artistic productions and an *esprit de corps* of sincere value. If the director will learn by heart and then practice Hamlet's advice to the Players (Act III, Scene 2), impressing the points on his actors during rehearsal, his work will soon capture the imagination of the entire community.

Organization for Production †

It is the duty of the director to select and cast the play, with the assistance of others, rehearse the actors, and superintend all the other work being carried on in connection with the production. With the director at the head, the organization naturally falls into three divisions:

1. The Actors

The members of the cast must first of all learn the necessity of arriving at rehearsal on time.

They should realize that the director is like a general in the army. He sees the play as a finished production from the viewpoint of a critical audience. His directions must be obeyed even though the individual actor does not immediately see the reasons for them. The cause of a poor performance is often due to the actors' failing, through ignorance or jealousy, to help each other and the director. In a play, as in any other cooperative movement, team work counts more than uncontrolled individuality. To assemble the many actors into a unified whole is the greatest task of the director.

2. Production Staff

The production staff is headed by the **Stage Manager**, the lieutenant of the director. The stage manager should be either an advanced student or a faculty member. He has charge of the stage, sees that the scenery is properly made and set, "rings" the curtain up and down, calls the acts,

† This outline will be of interest to those not desiring a permanent organization but intending to produce a single play.

and checks up on the work of the other members of his department. Under the stage manager are the following workers:

1. **Art Director.** He is in charge of scene painting and the making of properties which cannot be borrowed or bought.

2. **Make-up Artist.** He makes up the characters according to the roles they are playing. This should be a person who has had training and experience in the art of make-up.

3. **Stage Carpenter.** With the art director and other assistants he works out the stage settings and constructs them. He rehearses the stage hands in the prompt changing of scenery. Here is fascinating work for students in the manual arts department of the school.

4. **Prompter.** He follows the play from the manuscript during rehearsal and performance and "throws" actors forgotten lines.

5. **Master of Properties.** He borrows or buys the necessary properties and furniture for the play and sees that each piece is in place for rehearsal and the performance.

6. **Electrician.** With the director he works out the desired lighting effects and operates the switchboard during the performance.

7. **Costumer.** He obtains or makes the necessary costumes for the production and sees that they are taken care of. Here the domestic arts department of the school will be of great help.

8. **Stage Crew.** They shift the scenery, move furniture, and do other work on stage. The size of the crew is dependent upon the number of changes and the elaborateness of the scenery—the smaller the better.

3. Business Staff

The **Business Manager** heads this department. It is he who makes necessary arrangements for the presentation of plays and with his assistants takes care of the front of the house. He should be a student who has business ability and tact. Under the business manager are three assistants:

Treasurer, or Box-Office Man, who sells tickets, cares for all funds, pays all bills. In many clubs this person is the same as the treasurer of the

permanent organization.

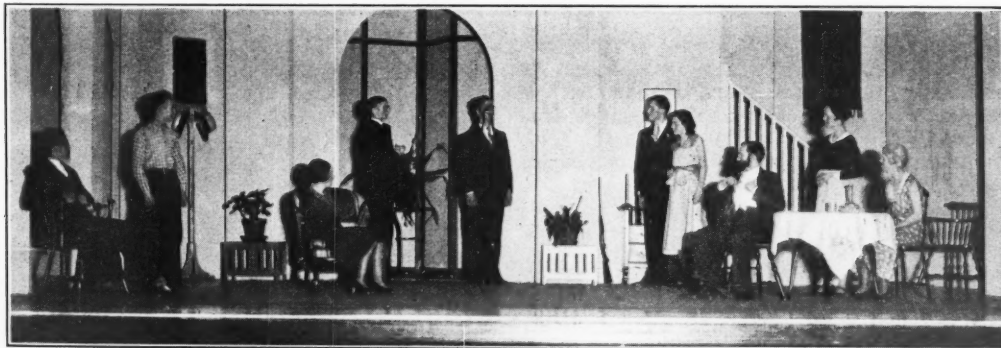
Advertising, or Press Agent, who supervises the printing for the production, distributes handbills and posters, and takes care of newspaper advertising.

House Manager, who is in charge of the auditorium. He engages ushers, ticket takers, and with the director arranges for the printing of the programs and tickets.

This scheme of organization is too elaborate for most schools. Combinations of the various offices are usually necessary and in many cases advisable. The essential fact to remember is that there are two separate and distinct divisions, management and production. There should be no interference between these two divisions. Although on the amateur stage the director supervises both departments, still his chief interest lies behind the footlights where he is supreme. Other duties should be executed by efficient assistants so that the director may center his interest on the stage. The same group of students will do most of the work, but they should be exchanged in their positions from production to production so that they may obtain more varied training.

Possibilities for Further Activities

There is no limit to the interesting and educational activities of a permanent school dramatic club. The producing of plays is the means by which the club will establish a reputation and tradition for itself, but with play production its activities have not ceased. The study of plays, history of the theatre, and movements in the drama offers worth-while activity. A part of the money made on productions should be set aside for the purchasing of plays representative of the various periods of the theatre, books on play production, books on the theatre, new stage equipment, and other devices for future improvement and growth. The dramatic club should sponsor every year or two a well-known lecturer to tell the community about the latest movements in the theatre. Prizes should be offered for criticisms of productions and essays on dramatic art. Indeed, there are no limits to the possible activities for a well-organized, progressive dramatic club.



"ZARAGUETA"

Produced at Eveleth Senior High School
By Mr. Earl W. Blank, Director of Troupe No. 165 and National Director The National Thespians

ASSEMBLIES

By DON T. BRENNAN, *Director of Speech Arts, Rye High School, Rye, N. Y.*

MAY I bring to the attention of my new colleagues, the many directors of the Thespians, a branch of school dramatic activity not generally listed under dramatics and not generally in the hands of dramatic directors, yet definitely related to our field and generally helpful to us and to our schools?

How many of your students actually take part in your shows during the year? Do five, ten or twenty percent of your student body receive the opportunity to benefit from our valuable training? Are you working for a select group of twenty or thirty in your dramatic club, or are you opening the dramatic activity to your whole school? Let me just give a brief resume of what has happened here during the first year of our new high school.

I hope that some of the directors are interested in knowing how we accomplished this, and if the few words I say about our plan will provide the germ that might influence a similar plan to give more students a chance to participate, I should be happy.

The assembly is the key to the entire situation; the various departments in the school are the cogs in the wheels that turn the students on to the stage and off from the stage. The program is not a haphazard one; it is one planned at the beginning of the term and carried out definitely to its close. Let me be more explicit.

We have, as you have, various departments such as English, science, history, art, library, speech, mathematics, foreign languages, shop, physical education, health, etc. Every one of



Players for "AS YOU LIKE IT"
Given by Stambaugh High School, Stambaugh, Mich.
Miss Helen Dunham, Director Troupe No. 215.

We have enrolled here approximately five hundred students. Of this number, let us say fifty are ineligible to participate in school activities for one reason or other. That leaves four hundred and fifty students who need and should have the training to be derived in dramatic activities. We found it possible to give this training to a large percentage of these students, and those who did not participate will do so during the first semester of our next school year.

Two hundred seventy students took part in stage presentations to date—about fifty percent. This striking when one considers that our program did not get under way until very late in the term, and that this is our first year in the school.

these departments is responsible for a program, and these programs must be worth while. They must be actual stage productions. They must be planned, rehearsed, costumed and staged the same as any for public presentation. They must work on these plays for weeks at a time. The department head is responsible. He superintends the selection of the play, usually an original by the teacher or some student, the casting and the rehearsing. When all lines are learned, properties and costumes accounted for, the play is turned over to me. I call in my stage craft club, lay out the production plans, and I personally direct the rehearsals the last three days. Thus every Thursday morning we have, in our assembly, a program that is a finished job, a program that

runs as smoothly as any evening production and a production that is using different people each week. That, in essence, is how we proceed.

Let me give you briefly an account of what some of the departments did this year. The library department was first to function. Book week happened to come at the time we were just getting under way, and the poor girl in the library lost about ten pounds and was almost a nervous wreck before she finished her play. She had never done anything like it before, and we insisted on something educational, interesting, and entertaining,—and we got it. The English department came to her aid and a program called "Book Land" was written. Characters from famous books appeared in appropriate scenes, were costumed, had proper lines and the audience received from that play something really worth while. That was our first attempt, and it opened the way to more elaborate, bigger and better programs which followed.

The history department followed with an original play written by the students. This play called "Thanksgiving, Yesterday and Today" called for special scenery, special costuming and special lighting. A scrim curtain was made and the vision of yesterday appeared directly behind the scenes of today. The staging was interesting and called forth the best efforts of those people interested in production work.

The art department with its original program called "Costume throughout the ages" was beautiful. Costume was traced from the tenth century on. The program offered an excellent chance for an art exhibit. The program closed with an ap-

propriate present day style show in which were used gowns sent to the school by a local dealer.

I need not go on with remarks about every individual program. It suffices to say that we do have actual worthwhile stage productions every Thursday morning. It is interesting to note that these programs besides using so many people have created an enthusiasm for play writing and have also created a demand for a course in dramatics which will be offered next year.

Just one more thought that may be of value. Once every month we bring to the school an outside attraction. One Thursday it was a pair of unusually intelligent dogs, another time it was Captain Stanley Osborne, noted Australian explorer, who gave a fine illustrated lecture. Another time we had a famous character artist who impersonated the famous men of history and literature. On eThursday a neighboring school sent its band of fifty people to us. The next month another school sent a forty-piece orchestra to us. We in turn sent one of our programs to them. The effects of such a procedure, the exchange of programs, I hope I may have the opportunity to write about later.

You will pardon all these ramblings, but we feel so elated over the success of the assembly procedure this year that we must tell people of it. Next year we expect to have a series of programs written exclusively by students and a program that will include even more than half our total enrollment. The high school assembly, then, is an important branch of our dramatic activity and one that should be given serious consideration.



Actors and Ensemble "DISRAELI" Cast
Little Theatre, Austin High School, Chicago, Ill.
Miss Madeleine Glynn, Director

CHILDREN'S THEATER

A PROJECT *for* HIGH SCHOOL THESPIANS

By LAURA SAUNDERS, Director of Dramatics, Reitz High School, Evansville, Ind.

I SUPPOSE that all directors of high school dramatics find themselves confronted with many of the same problems. One of my most insistent for solution is that of providing sufficient opportunities to satisfy the dramatic urge that is felt by a great number of our enthusiastic, young Thespians.

This situation is occasioned by several conditions over which the most versatile director has no control. In the first place, the casts of most good plays are of necessity comparatively small. Plays are so written. In the next place, it takes money to produce plays. Our school community (and I don't think that our situation has been peculiar) for the last several years, has not been able to bear the economic strain of numerous productions. And again, the many activities of the average city high school make a full school calendar. Few dates, on which to give plays, the financial handicap attached to the production of plays, the small number who can take part in the staging of plays, all combine to limit the opportunities given our eager high school students. We, who believe in educational dramatics, find ourselves thus confronted. The situation is a difficult one but I believe it is worthy of our best thought and efforts. Several years ago, we hit upon a new idea, new for us, at least, and our experiment proved very satisfactory. Our idea was Children's Theater for the children of the schools which feed into our high school.

Our high school, of approximately one thousand students, is located in a residential district. Two city elementary schools and a number of rural schools provide our student body. Three of these rural schools are within walking distance while one has direct connection with our building by a street car. When the time came in order to avoid disappointment, nothing was said about our not being able to give our usual annual play due to economic conditions but attention was called to the fact that the children of these schools were not being given proper recreational opportunities. Until recently in our city, nowhere outside the school room, has plays within the mental and emotional comprehension of little folks been produced. This was brought to the attention of the club. Wouldn't the Strut and Fret Players like to give these children a treat? How about having a matinee for them! Would the club like to be public

spirited and produce, manage, finance a play which these children could understand and enjoy and give it to them free of charge? The group caught the spirit of service and the idea went over "big."

Since the project would take us beyond our own campus, we consulted our principal before making further plans. He was quite agreeable to the idea. In fact, it fitted in well with his plans to bring the schools in closer contact. A play was soon selected. Our first choice was a bill of two of Stuart Walker's plays—"The Six Who Pass While the Lentils Boil" and "Sir David Wears a Crown." When the production was well started, cards of invitation were printed by our printing department. Since our auditorium was not large enough to accommodate all, the invitations were apportioned to the various schools on the basis of enrollment.

Then the publicity was begun. The members of the publicity committee visited the schools, explained their plan to the principals and teachers and when permission was given, even announced the affair to the children. The distribution of the invitations was left to the discretion of the teachers and in most cases the invitations became awards of merit. For six weeks the building fairly hummed with activity. Every phase of production became a student activity, including building of scenery, making of costumes and properties, lighting, make-up, house-managing, stage managing, and acting. Everything was done by students and every member of the club of forty had a definite responsibility in their project. Everybody was busy and happy. The proceeds of a previous performance were used to defray expenses. A party which was to have been given with this money was entirely forgotten in the joy of rendering service to others. The play was a success and did us all, from the director down to the boy who pulled the curtain, a world of good. The effort was many times blessed, "blessing those who gave, as well as those who received."

We have repeated the project several times and would recommend the idea to any group in need of activity. Each time, our audience of happy, applauding children has made us feel that the effort was well worth the time, energy and money spent and the training received by those participating has proved a liberal education.



"THE ROYAL FAMILY"
A production of Troupe No. 122, Directed by Miss Dorothy M. Crane,
Newport News High School, Newport News, Va.



"SLAVE WITH TWO FACES"
Produced by Josephine Fawcett, Director of Dramatics
Sac City High School, Sac City, Iowa

A MARIONETTE PLAY

GWENDOLYN FULLER, *Secretary Troupe 186, Ames Senior High School, Ames, Iowa*

A MOST interesting and different sort of project undertaken by Troupe 186 during the past year was the presentation of the marionette play "Doctor Faust". Under the guidance of a local troupe, The Ames Marionettes, the nine Thespians made and manipulated the fourteen marionettes for the show. They learned a great deal, never having tried their hand at that type of work.

The cast included seven human parts, one large subterranean spirit and four little ones, a raven, and a dragon. Each student made and painted the heads for the ones he was going to run, and helped string them; the boys made the bodies and the girls dressed them. The heads were modeled in clay and cast in plaster of Paris. Then a shell of plastic wood was made from the cast, and when painted and given hair, this completed the head.

The bodies of the cloth marionettes consisted of two wooden triangles, the vertices of which were hinged together at the waist. The arms, hands, legs, and feet were of carved wood; the arms were attached by cloth joints and the legs by screw-eyes. The four small devils had carved wood bodies, embellished with spring-like tails, rooster claws, corrugated legs, or other accessories according to the whim of the carver. The raven was of carved wood, and the beautiful green dragon with flashlight eyes that could wink consisted of a jointed wooden backbone covered with painted cloth; the head and claws were of plastic wood.

Silk and wool were used for costuming. Some had leather shoes and some painted ones. Most of the marionettes had seven strings on an "air-plane" type controller, with an attached but loose upper bar for the legs. The most difficult stringing feat was the manipulating of things that had to be picked up. The raven could pick up a scroll in his beak, Casper had to hold a lantern, and Faust carried a large book which he could lay down. The dragon's long controller demanded two people to manage it.

The stage and scenery belonged to the Ames Marionettes. The lighting and properties made an extremely effective staging to see. The stage had one bridge behind for most of the puppeteers and an additional proscenium bridge above the footlights to accommodate one or two.

For inexperienced hands, the task of making the little wooden people walk and act naturally was the hardest. They would float up into the air at the most inopportune times! Many hours were spent on walking practice, since memorizing shot speeches fitted to jerky little figures was easy for experienced actors.

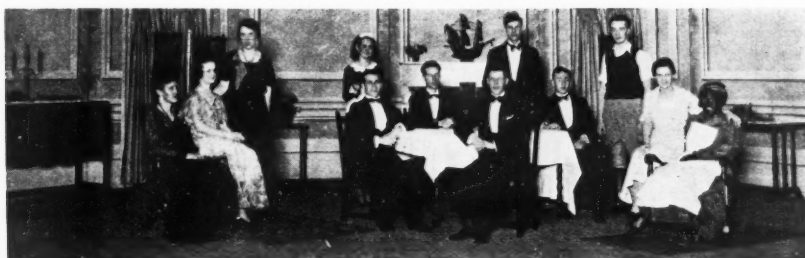
As finally produced before the school, the play went smoothly, showed few signs that the puppeteers were extremely amateur, and was financially successful. The Thespians considered it one of the most delightful enterprises they could have attempted.



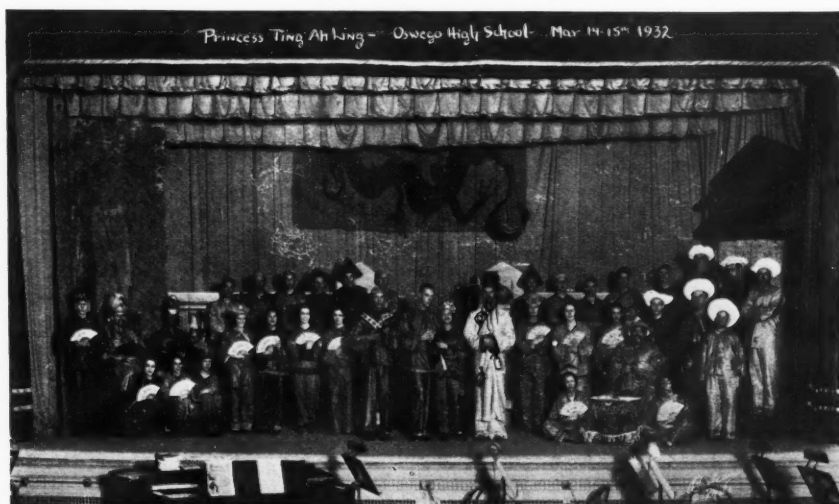
"THE HAUNTED HOUSE"
Given by Troupe 118, Oswego High School, Oswego, New York
Miss Gladys Steenberg, Director



"POLLY WITH A PAST", as produced at Washington Gardner High School, Albion, Michigan
Miss Elaine Abbot, Director, Troupe No. 55



Scene from "COME OUT OF THE KITCHEN"
Presented by Troupe No. 91, Michigan City, Indiana
Directed by Miss Goldie Shepherd



Cast of "PRINCESS TING AH LING"
Given by Oswego High School, Oswego, N. Y., Troupe No. 118
Miss Gladys Steenberg, Director

Suggestions for a High School Play Cast

By LENA M. SHIPPY, Sponsor, Troupe 157
Liberty Memorial High School, Lawrence, Kan.

REAL acting is first of all a mental process, and requires careful thought and consideration. Think of the real meaning of every word as you say it. Be the character you are acting. When you are not on the stage silently study your own part or else listen to those who are speaking on the stage. Make notes of any improvements that you have to suggest and hand your notes to the director.

The acting of a play should be so well done that the illusion of reality is created. When an actor impersonates he puts himself into some other person's place. He loses his identity; he becomes, for the time, the other person. He puts himself so completely in the place of the other person's thoughts that he thinks their thoughts. The actor creates the character he impersonates. Before impersonation is possible the actor must make a thorough study of the character he is impersonating.

There are several ways in which the actor may know the character. First, the character reveals himself most clearly by what he says. Second, we know what a character is like by what the other characters in the play say to him; and third, by what the other characters say about him. Fourth, in the printed drama the author makes comments on the various characters introduced. After a careful study of the sources mentioned, the actor asks himself, "Have I ever known anybody in real life who was anything like the character I am acting?"

Thus when the actor knows his character, he puts himself in the character's place so fully that he thinks his thoughts, and as a result the voice,

the action, the whole bodily and facial expression will naturally and instinctively suggest that of the character portrayed. The movements of the character on the stage should at all times be natural to the character. The actor must keep "in character" every moment, whether speaking or silent. If he is truly impersonating, his own identity is lost; he pays no attention to the audience. His world is bounded by the walls and the footlights of the stage. (However, this we need to remember. As much as is consistent with the character, speak well to the front of the stage, and do not turn your back to the audience any more than is really necessary.)

Each scene of a play must move. Actors must be alert, responses quick, entrances exactly on time! The words must be distinctly heard in all parts of the room. In practices things should be done exactly as you expect to do them on the night of the performance.

When the time arrives for the presentation of the play everything should be in readiness. Each actor should look after and be responsible for his own properties and costumes. It looks very amateurish for people in the play to pass in and out of the curtain of the stage, bringing this or that to be used in the play. The cast should be in costume and made up at least ten minutes before the play is to start. After the curtain rises there should be no conversation whatever behind the scenes. The whole attention of all of the characters in the play, whether they are on the stage or off, should be centered around what is going on on the stage. Remember if your play is to be a success each must do his best.



"THE OPTIMIST"
Produced by Troupe No. 150, Stadium High School, Tacoma, Washington
Miss Alberta F. Black, Director

A PROJECT IN STAGECRAFT

By J. H. HOEHNER, Instructor in Stagecraft,
Topeka High School, Topeka, Kansas



THE Masque and Wig Club of Topeka High School presented for its play, Lewis Beach's three act comedy, "Merry Andrew". The accompanying picture shows the set for Acts I and III, Scene I, representing the prescription-filling department of a modern, well equipped drug store.

The set consisted of four sets of shelving; two, nine feet long and ten feet high, for the back wall, and two, twelve feet long and nine feet high, for the side walls. Each set had six shelves eight inches wide, and a counter-shelf twenty inches wide and three feet from the floor.

Below each counter-shelf was a fake set of drawers made of an eight inch board, blocked off to represent drawers. On each drawer was nailed a square block, three inches long, for a drawer pull. Above the drawer pull, in black figures, was painted the number of the drawer and below, the name of the drug or the material the drawer was supposed to contain. Below the drawers in the side walls were tacked sides of paper cartons to

represent boxes of reserve stock, and on the back wall, wall board was blocked off to represent cabinets.

On the eight-inch shelves on the side walls were glued empty patent medicine and candy bar boxes, and on the shelves on the back wall were wired empty bottles. Each bottle was labeled to represent some drug. The empty bottles and cartons were gathered from the drug stores in the neighborhood. A piece of wall board thirty inches wide was blocked off to represent drawers for filing prescriptions, each drawer numbered for the prescriptions it was supposed to contain. On the top shelf of each section were fastened cartons and advertisements to break the straight line. The shelving was backed by a plain interior set.

All the material that goes to make up the set was gathered and assembled by the stagecraft class. Although the shelves had the appearance of being heavy, each section was light enough to be handled by two boys, thus making quick shifts possible.



Scene from "MERRY ANDREW"
Presented by Troupe No. 210, Topeka High School, Topeka, Kansas
Miss Gertrude S. Wheeler, Director

From Our THESPIAN TROUPES

Advertising "AS YOU LIKE IT"

Troupe 215, Staumbaugh High School,
Staumbaugh, Mich.

ABOUT two weeks before the Stambaugh Dramatic Club, now Troupe 215 of the National Thespians, presented "As You Like It", we put up a series of black and white signs. The first sign read:

~ ~
? February 12 ?

the second sign read:

~ ~
! February 12th !
! Save that date !

the third read:

"AS YOU LIKE IT"
Feb. 12th

These were posted on three successive days in all of the corridors of the various school buildings and in the local stores and those in the surrounding villages. The first two aroused curiosity, but the secret was kept until the third appeared. After this, large, colored posters—original drawings with comments about the actors—were placed in prominent places.

Celia's and Rosalind's court costumes were modelled before the Junior and Senior High School assemblies, between the halves of an important basketball game, and before each group of children above the third grade. A sales talk was made to each group and the story of the play was told to the grade children.

This caused a great deal of interest and excitement on the part of the students. They were then offered either one complimentary adult ticket for every ten adult tickets sold or a cash payment of five cents. As a result all the small boys in town, and many of the girls, were selling tickets. The play was well advertised; the theater was packed at the matinee; at the evening performance there was a large crowd in spite of the fifteen below zero weather.



Scene from "THE SPRIGHTLY WIDOW BARTLETT"
Troupe No. 177, Orlando Senior High School, Orlando, Florida
Miss Mildred E. Murphy, Director



"THE JADE GOD"
Presented by Williamson High School, Williamson, West Virginia
Miss Rose G. Smith, Director

From Troupe No. 122
Newport News High School,
Newport News, Va.

1. How We Finance Our Play

Our new method of financing the plays this year is the use of the activity ticket. Every student in school subscribed for the purchase of the activity ticket at \$3.50. This paid for all football, basketball and other athletic tickets, gave them admission to all dramatic and musical events, and subscriptions to the school newspaper, literary magazine, and annual. From the amount subscribed through these tickets, we received for each play \$250. With this amount as a nucleus it was a comparatively easy matter even in this time of depression for us to finance the production of our rather elaborate and expensive plays.

2. How We Advertise

As far as advertising is concerned, we consider the fact that our twelve hundred students each have tickets for the play to be our best advertising. They, together with our two hundred enthusiastic drama students, all of whom have something to do with the production of the play, form an enthusiastic group of volunteer advertisers. In addition our school printing class makes us posters which are put in all the stores, on the street cars, etc. Art posters are also put around town. We find that the most effective form of advertising, even though it is rather expensive, is the studio portraits of the play, which are taken the first night that the scenery is put up and which are hastily put out on display. In addition we carry advertising in our school paper, as well as in the town paper.

3. How We Keep Order At Rehearsals

This is practically never a problem at this school. Our morale has been rather thoroughly built up through years of insistence upon absolute regularity and punctuality. In addition, the fact that we have a regular school course in drama tends to aid us in establishing the seriousness of our work. Perhaps we are unusually fortunate but I really cannot say that the question of discipline enters into our rehearsals in the least. Of course, we are very strict, and any person not living up to the spirit of our production would be promptly removed. We can afford to be quite independent about this as we have over two hundred students trying out for each play.—Miss Dorothy M. Crane, Director.

From Troupe No. 96,
South Charleston High School,
South Charleston, W. Va.

Members of Troupe 96 have found that a "bargain hour," for students, during the afternoon preceding the production of the play, is a worthwhile experiment. Many students are unable to pay the regular prices though they are anxious to see the play. We sold our reserved seats for fifteen cents less and our general admission tickets for ten cents less.

We have found that the reduced royalty rates, and the possibility of buying for a small cost, commercial posters from the Dramatic Publishing Company (Chicago) are an asset in play production.

We have found that plays produced in February or April are more successful, both in financial returns and quality of production.

We have found that a five week plan of rehearsal very effective. The first three weeks, we follow the plan used by most Little Theatres and the one submitted by national headquarters for trial. The fourth and fifth weeks we rehearse the entire play. Our goal in these rehearsals is to iron out all wrinkles thereby having a finished production. We have produced two plays this year in which no prompts were necessary.

We rehearse four nights during the week, for we find that by allowing members of the cast to have one night free, we get better and more efficient work done. This also prohibits members asking to be excused from rehearsal.

We rehearse for just about one and one-half hours. The psychological law of practice is applicable, for longer practice periods do not prove beneficial.—From Scrapbook of Troupe No. 96.

From Troupe No. 201

Great Neck High School,
Great Neck, N. Y.

Our Point System

In our Great Neck Dramatics troupe we have an especially good system of awarding club honors; these honors are a club pin, a silver key, and a gold key. To possess a club pin the owner must first win ten points in club activities. For a silver key, the required points are twenty, and for a gold key, thirty points. The system is simple and the method of earning points is well specified. First, for acting, a major part brings ten credits, a minor, five. In committee work, the scenery and also the lighting committee men earn five

points each. To publicity workers we give three points, while the costume helpers receive four points. Property work brings five points. The ushers get one credit for each night they usher. Quite a few have received gold keys this year and one boy has gone so far as to make sixty-two credits. We consider our system very fair, on the whole; it is a fine path to a fine reward.—Miss Virgilyn A. Nickerson, Director.

From Troupe No. 91,

Isaac C. Elston Senior High School,
Michigan City, Ind.

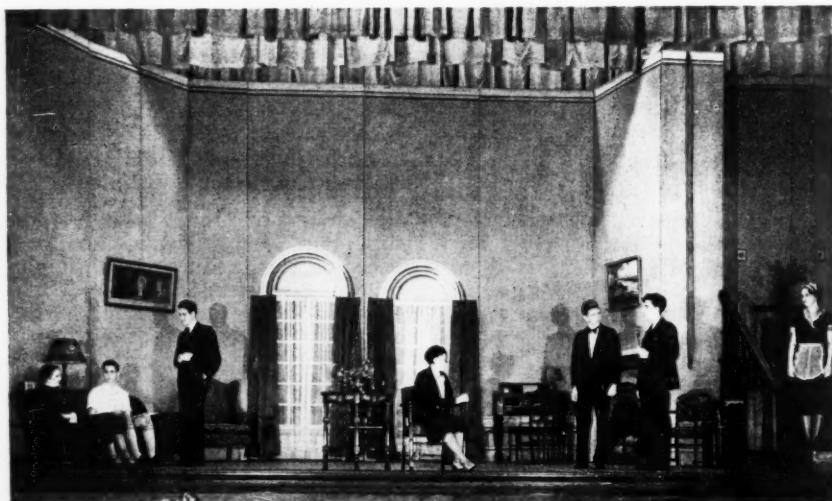
Our Thespians Little Theater

When our high school outgrew the old library and had to have a new one, we were fortunate enough to get the old room for our Little Theater. The troupe immediately assumed the responsibility of equipping the room properly.

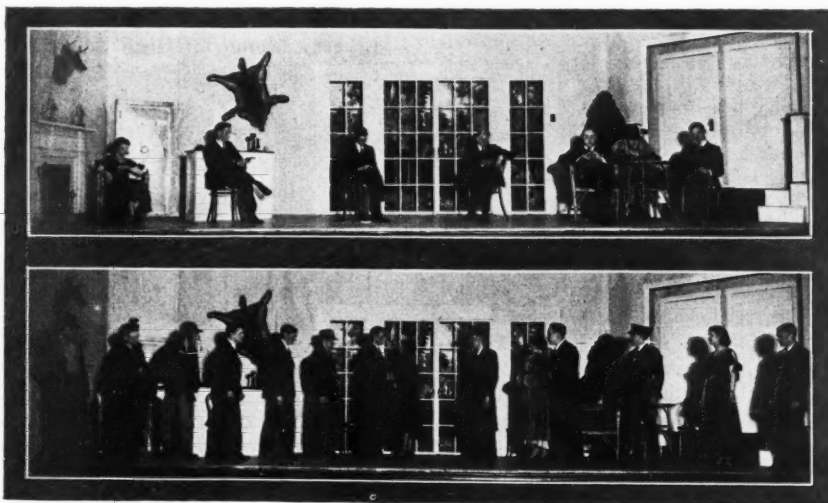
We secured the cooperation of the woodshop and electrical shop instructors as well as that of the architectural drawing instructor.

The stage was designed, and the blue prints for it were made in the drawing classes. The boys in the woodshop assisted the janitors in the construction of the stage, while the boys in the electrical shop did the wiring for the overhead and footlights.

The troupe purchased a taupe cyclorama and a brown Velotex curtain for the stage, which has been used for public speaking classes and debates, as well as for plays by the Thespians, for the room will accommodate nearly one hundred people.—Miss Goldie Shepherd, Director.



Scene from "YOU AND I"
As presented at Charleston High School, Troupe No. 200, Charleston, W. Va.
Miss Dorothy Seidenburg, Director



"SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE"
Troupe 225, Lincoln Community High School, Lincoln, Illinois
Mr. Clarence A. Miller, Director

From Troupe No. 53,
Washington Gardner High School,
Albion, Michigan.

How We Produced "Polly With a Past"

For enthusiastic interest of players and audience alike I can recommend no play higher than "Polly With a Past."

At first I was discouraged when I learned that curtailing of expense made it possible for us to use the auditorium for practice only two nights a week. That meant that we had to work two whole months on our play. I had visions of its becoming very stale. To my surprise this was not the case. The first three or four weeks we practiced just twice a week, Wednesday after four and Saturday morning from nine to twelve. I found the latter very satisfactory as the players were not spending half their time thinking about dates and we felt we had time to work over parts to our satisfaction. Wednesday practice just kept us from forgetting till the real work on Saturday.

The students liked the play well enough to work up scenes outside by themselves. They often had their parts for an act fairly well learned before the dead-line of "no books." We did not feel rushed or worried but had time to enjoy our work thoroughly. Of course, towards the last we managed to practice more frequently. The play went through with fairly few hitches a week before the production and none at all on the night! We really were disappointed not to be able to give it again.—Elaine Abbott, Director.

From Troupe No. 172,
Arkadelphia High School,
Arkadelphia, Ark.

The Thespian Banquet

The Arkadelphia High School Thespians feeling that they would like to have a fitting close to the activities of 1931-32, decided to have a banquet which would be attended by all present members of the high school Thespian group and also all former members who had graduated from high school. Plans were made, and the date of the banquet was set for commencement week, as this was the time when school activities were in their height, and also when the former Thespians could be better reached.

The time of the banquet was novel itself. It took place at night after the presentation of two student-recitals in which several of its members took part. Therefore, the clock was hinting that it was time for all good people to be in bed before the Thespians began their revels.

More novel than the time, was the program, which consisted of talks on absurd subjects which had no particular meaning and dwelt on no certain subjects. These talks were issued to different members before the banquet with the advice that a true Thespian should be able to talk on any subject, no matter how obscure its meaning.

To give a still more artistic touch to the banquet, the toastmistress announced at the beginning, that as this was a group of actors, that it

was fitting for each member to assume some other character for the night. At this suggestion, the group immediately changed from a noisy crowd of school boys and girls into an artificial group of famous people. Feeling that the acting of the individuals would be more appreciated if the names of the characters were known, the toast-mistress then asked the members to stand up individually and introduce themselves.

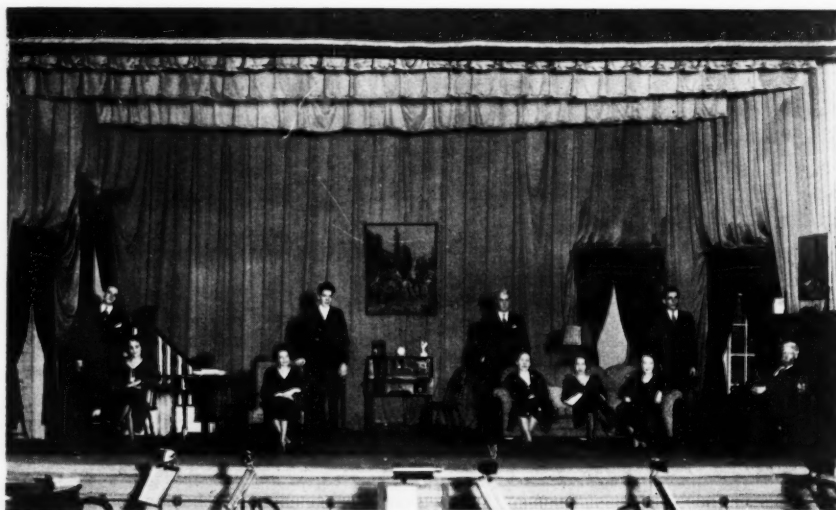
To our surprise, we found ourselves in the midst of many notables of both the present and the past. One girl, a blonde, introduced herself as Jean Harlow the movie actress, and promptly drew herself into the character of a siren. Another, a short brunette, poop-poop-a-dooped her way through the role of Helen Kane, while other movie stars were Marie Dressler and her teammate Polly Moran, Maurice Chevalier, and many others. Another interesting character was Richard the Lion Hearted, who insisted on calling his pocket knife a dagger and eating with that weapon (with the assistance of his fingers and Jean Harlow, his dinner partner). Others chose famous people of both historical times and of the present day, while others impersonated school mates and teachers. All carried their roles in true actor's form, even the member who persisted in acting the role of "nobody".

After the banquet, officers were elected for next year and other business was concluded, as this was the last meeting of the Thespian group. The officers elected were as follows: Harold Copeland, president; Sarah Strong, vice-president; Nina Mae Holland, secretary; James Hearin, treasurer, and Thomas Croxton, reporter.

From Troupe No. 157,
Liberty Memorial High School,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Play Try-Out Blank

1. Name.
2. How many high school credits have you?
3. Why do you desire a part in the play?
4. Home address telephone No.
5. Do you play basketball or take part in other activity which might conflict with play practice?
6. Do you agree to be present at every practice unless you are previously excused by the play director?
7. Do you agree not to ask for an excuse from practice unless it is absolutely necessary?
8. Will you be prompt at all rehearsals?
9. Will you quietly keep seated in the wings of the stage whenever you are not supposed to be on the stage?
10. Do you agree to refrain from all unnecessary talking, whispering, and noise when not on the stage?
11. Do you agree to learn your part promptly?
12. Do you agree to cooperate fully in making the play a success?—Used by Lina M. Shippy, Director.



"SKIDDING"
A production of Oswego High School, Oswego, N. Y.
Miss Gladys Steenberg, Director



Scenes from "R. U. R."
A production of Rye High School, Rye, New York
Mr. Don T. Brennan, Director

ROYALTY REDUCTIONS *for* 1932-33

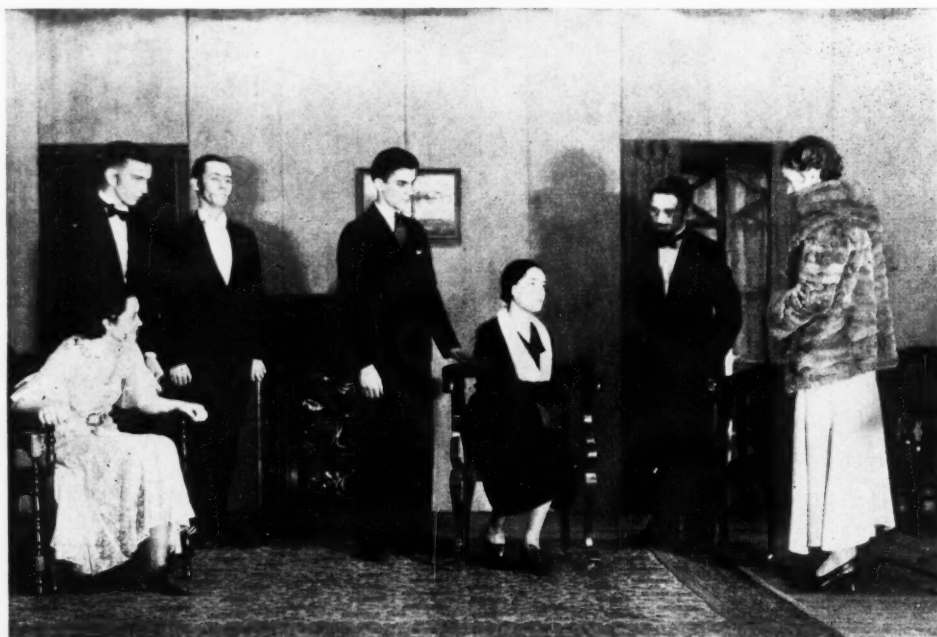
SEVERAL additions have been added to our list of reduced royalty plays of last year. These plays are available to members of The National Thespians only, and application for reductions must be made on the authorized form issued from the central office. Application blanks for Reduced Royalty Plays are furnished upon request by the National Secretary-Treasurer of The National Thespians.

The central office was unable to secure reduced royalty rates on certain plays suggested by the troupes. The publishers have expressed their willingness, however, to consider the handicaps of the various individual producers and to make reductions if the authors will consent. It is highly advisable, therefore, that our troupe directors begin royalty negotiations early enough to permit some sort of satisfactory agreement in time for production.

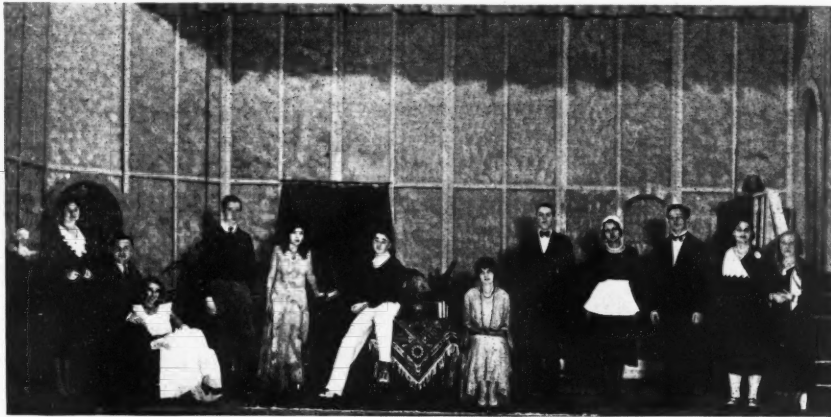
Directors are urged to keep in mind that reductions are available only on the plays mentioned below. Royalty agreements for plays not on this list must be made directly with the publishers.

Samuel French, 25 West 45th Street, New York City, offers reductions on the following plays. The royalty on several of these plays is \$50 a performance. The reductions range from \$5 to \$15 a performance:

Aren't We All	\$35.00	Love In A Mist	35.00
The Devil in the Cheese	35.00	In Love With Love	35.00
The Goose Hangs High	35.00	This Thing Called Love	35.00
Captain Applejack	35.00	The Cat and the Canary	35.00
		The Fool	35.00
		The Royal Family	35.00
		You and I	30.00
		Houseparty	30.00
		Cock Robin	30.00
		The Patsy	30.00
		The Easy Mark	30.00
		Pomeroy's Past	30.00
		The Youngest	30.00
		Hay Fever	25.00
		Lilies of the Field	25.00
		In the Next Room	20.00
		Penrod	20.00
		Dulcy	20.00
		The Black Flamingo	20.00
		The Detour	20.00
		Laff That Off	20.00
		Fool's Gold	20.00
		Courting	15.00
		Cristilinda	15.00
		Hunky Dory	15.00
		House Afire	15.00
		The Cave Girl	15.00
		East Is West	15.00
		Johnny Get Your Gun	15.00
		Cappy Ricks	15.00
		Quincy Adams Sawyer	15.00
		Baby Mine	15.00



"IN THE NEXT ROOM"
As given by Central High School, Red Wing, Minnesota
Miss Esther Hoyer, Director



Cast of "PEG 'O MY HEART"
Presented by Troupe No. 73, Manistee High School, Manistee, Michigan
Directed by Kari Natalie Reed

The Family Upstairs, In Love With Love, The Cat and the Canary, and This Thing Called Love may not be produced in stock towns unless permission in writing is first obtained from Samuel French.

Longmans Green & Company, 55 Fifth Ave., New York City, have granted The National Thespians special royalty reductions on each of the popular plays listed below. DIRECTORS ARE REQUESTED TO KEEP IN MIND THAT A ROYALTY OF \$15 DOES NOT INCLUDE THE DIRECTOR'S MANUSCRIPT.

Play	Reduced Without Director's Manuscript	Royalties With Director's Manuscript	Usual Royalty Charged non-memb's
The Busybody	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$25.00
The Tightwad	15.00	20.00	25.00
The Call of the Banshee.....	15.00	20.00	25.00
Second Childhood	15.00	20.00	25.00
A Lucky Break	15.00	20.00	25.00
Her Friend the King.....	15.00	20.00	25.00
The New Poor.....	15.00	20.00	25.00
The Radio Mystery.....	15.00	20.00	25.00
Loose Ankles	15.00	20.00	25.00
Watch Your Step.....	15.00	20.00	25.00

The plays listed are all comparatively easy to stage, and they are especially adapted for high school production.

Row, Peterson & Company, 1911 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, or 140 West 22nd Street, New York City, list the following plays on a percentage basis. The royalty is 15% of the total receipts, the maximum royalty in any case being \$25.00. It follows, of course, that the royalty may be lower than that amount, depending entirely upon the admission fee charged and the attendance. During the past year, when attendance figures from many states show a falling off, the percentage rate has been most highly praised as being equitable to large and small schools alike. It is a form of risk insurance for the producer.

Plays which are preceded by an asterisk are newly published.

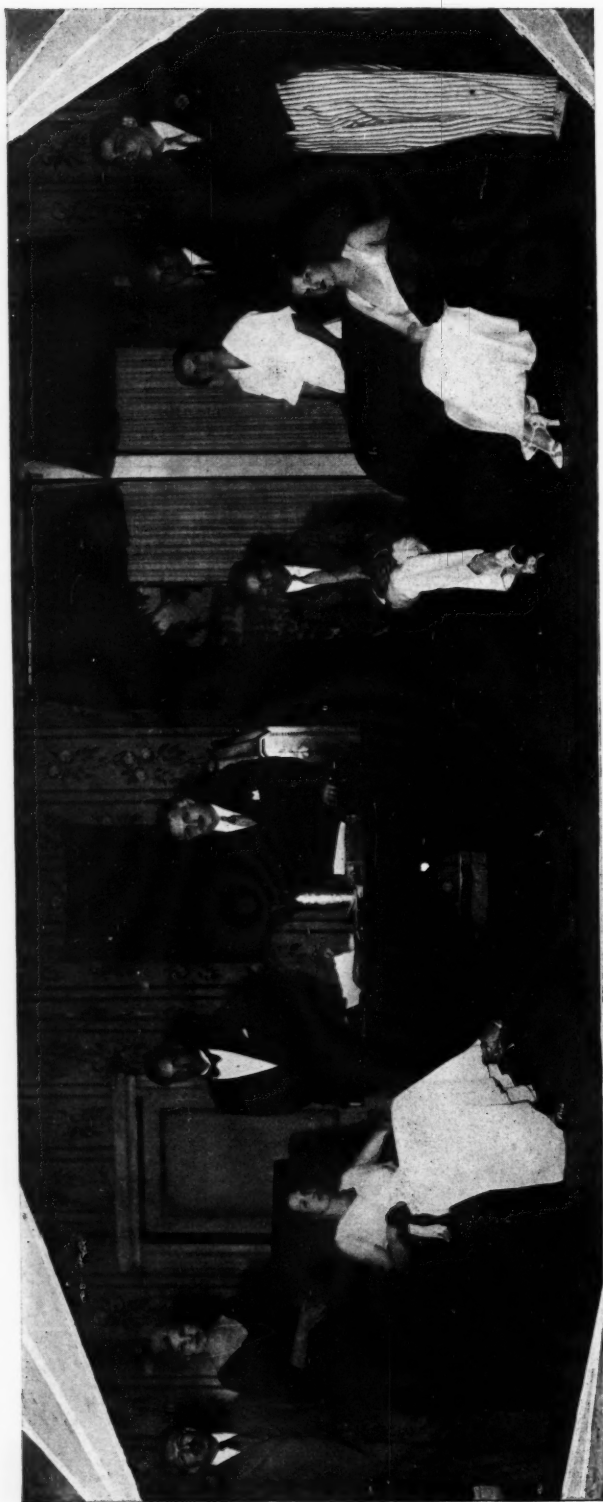
Full-Length Plays

The King Rides By.....	6M.	6W.
Once in a Lifetime.....	6M.	7W.
Man or Mouse.....	8M.	6W.
Big Time	11M.	9W.
The Quest	5M.	4W.
Whimsy	12M.	11W.
The Whippersnappers	8M.	4W.
The Whoofenpoof	4M.	4W.
The Worm	7M.	3W.
Happiness for Six	3M.	3W.
*Listen, World!	5M.	5W.
The Treasure Chest	3M.	6W.
*The McMurray Chin.....	4M.	7W.
*Cocktails or Tea	4M.	6W.
*Shirt Sleeves	7M.	9W.
*Here's Hoping	7M.	6W.
*Heart Trouble	5M.	5W.

One-Act Plays

The royalty on a one-act play is 15% of the gross receipts with a maximum of \$10.00. If the play is produced on a program with other one-act plays, the percentage rate is the same, but the maximum is \$5.00. Where no admission is charged, the flat royalty is \$5.00 per performance.

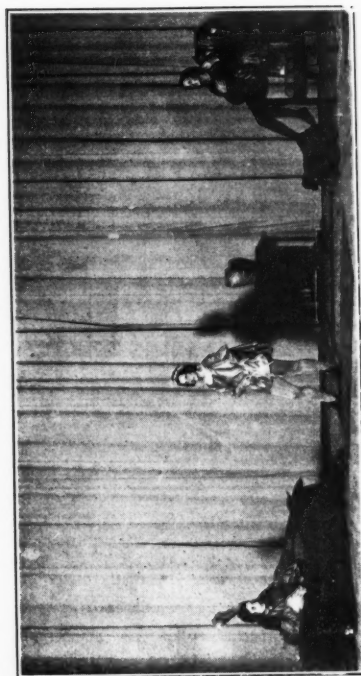
Submerged—6M.
A Message from Khufu—4M.
The Shadow Before—4M. 3W.
Storm Before Sunset—4M. 3W.
Vendue—10M. 2W.
The Sphinx—2M. 1W.
Confetti—2M. 2W.
A Friend at Court—4M. 4W.
Printer's Ink—5M. 1W.
Let's Move the Furniture—4M. 2W.
*The Black Valise—4M. 1W.
*The Valley of Lost Men—5M.
*The Gypsy—2M. 2W.



"ADAM AND EVA"
Produced by Troupe No. 201, Great Neck High School, Great Neck, New York
Miss Virgilyn Nickerson, Director



Scene from "HOUSE PARTY"
Given by Miss Dorothy M. Crane, Director Troupe No. 122,
Newport News High School, Newport News, Va.



Scene from "TWELFTH NIGHT"
Arkadelphia High School, Arkadelphia, Ark.
Mrs. R. B. Thomas, Director

MISS MADELEINE GLYNN

Director Troupe 185—Little Theatre—Austin High School

Chicago, Illinois.

Miss Glynn's studies and achievements include: Kittelson Studio, Omaha, Nebraska; Columbia College of Expression, Chicago, Illinois; Teacher's Certificate, American Academy of Dramatic Arts, New York City; Speech-Play Production, Columbia University; History of Painting, Chicago University in cooperation with Art Institute Galleries; Pasadena Community Playhouse, Pasadena, California; Manhattan Theatre Colony, New York City; Speech and Speech Laboratory Work, London University, London, England; Delegate to better American Speech Committee, Chicago Womans' Club; Honorary correspondent, Summer School for Foreigners, London, University; Member Alpha Psi Omega; Member Playwrights Theatre, Chicago, Illinois Founder and Producing Director Little Theatre, Austin High School, Chicago, Illinois.



THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

REDUCED ROYALTY PLAYS

Directors of our society are urged to take advantage of the reduced royalty rates available on the popular plays listed in this issue of **The High School Thespian**. These plays are for the benefit of our members only, and application for reduced royalty rates must be made on the official form furnished by the Central Office. **Directors are requested to negotiate directly with the publishers for plays not listed herein, and on which they wish royalty reductions.**

THESPIAN JEWELRY

The prices of all Thespian Jewelry are listed on the inside front cover of this magazine. The official order form for jewelry may be obtained from the office of the National Secretary-Treasurer. Orders are filled only after they are approved by the Central Office. **Directors must fill a separate order sheet for each Thespian ordering jewelry. A tax is placed on all orders amounting to more than \$3.00.**

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

Each director is invited to submit one suggestion which she considers of practical value to our members. All contributions must not be over one hundred words in length, neatly arranged and typed. If enough suggestions are submitted, a mimeograph copy of each will be mailed to every troupe. Contributions must be in by January 1, 1933.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR RESIGNS

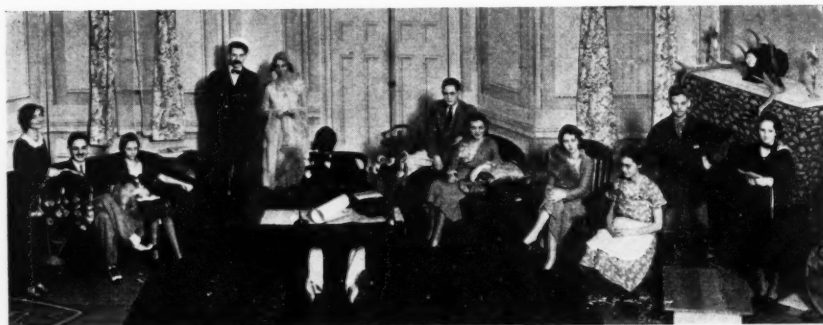
The resignation of Miss Eura M. Kester, associate editor of **The High School Thespian**, and director of the Anaconda High School troupe, is deeply regretted by our society. Miss Kester has taken more than an average interest in the growth of The National Thespians, and her excellent work as a director ranks among the best reported to the Central Office. The National Council and troupes express their appreciation and thanks to Miss Kester for her invaluable work rendered in behalf of our society.

THE HIGH SCHOOL THESPIAN

The present issue of **The High School Thespian** is in many respects a decided improvement over previous ones. An attempt has been made to include in it all reports of value submitted by our directors. Many of the photographs are from engravings made by our directors, a matter which has curtailed somewhat the cost of our publication. These photographs often give the stage settings of plays directors are interested in producing. The department devoted to **Troupe Reports** gives many suggestions which may be of use to our directors. Those who have difficulty with the organization of their drama clubs may find helpful instructions in the article on that subject printed in this issue.



"SKIDDING"
As presented at Red Bluff Union High School, Troupe No. 145, Red Bluff, California
Directed by Miss Virginia Pearson



"FIFTY-FIFTY"
Liberty Memorial High School, Lawrence, Kansas
Miss Lina M. Shippy, Director



"A LUCKY BREAK"
Liberty Memorial High School, Lawrence, Kansas
Miss Lina M. Shippy, Director

AMONG OUR BEST THESPIANS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thespians whose pictures appear under this department have been awarded special recognition for their excellent work done in dramatics among the

troupes of which they are members. In almost all cases these Thespians were selected as the most valuable and outstanding Thespians in their troupes.



THOMAS SANDISON

Troupe No. 1, Natrona County High School,
Casper, Wyoming

Thomas Sandison, the best Thespian of Troupe 1, has displayed a splendid spirit of co-operation. If the time devoted to dramatic productions measured success he would again qualify. He took major leads in "The Nut Farm", "To the Ladies" and entered the local play contest in "Rich Man, Poor Man".

MISS MARY MOORE MILLER

Troupe No. 2, Fairmont Senior High School,
Fairmont, West Virginia

Miss Miller has taken an active part in Thespian work since her entrance during her junior year.

She had the lead in "Green Stockings", played the part of the Lady of the Portrait in "Beau of Bath", had the lead in the Thespian three-act play "Mr. Pim Passes By", portrayed Ursula Trent in "Her Country" which placed fourth in the state one-act play contest in Buckhannon, W. Va., and the part of Mrs. Winslow in "The Youngest".

Miss Miller was chosen as our best Thespian because of her high scholastic and dramatic ability by a unanimous vote of the club.



MISS LOIS JACKSON

Troupe No. 6, Weir High School,
Weirton, West Virginia

Lois Jackson has played major roles in several plays and she has been awarded the honor of being chosen the most representative Thespian in dramatics and scholarship. Lois is an untiring worker and has upheld the ideals and standards of the National Thespians in every way. Perhaps her most outstanding characteristics are poise and dependability. Lois not only has talent but is willing to work hard on any part assigned to her. She memorizes lines promptly and is helpful at all rehearsals—in fact she is a good Thespian.



JAMES MAGUIRE

Troupe No. 9, Anaconda High School,
Anaconda, Montana

He is one who never relinquished practice alone or with others when given a role; one who worked on scenery when others worked or when others rested; and one who worked for the good of the cause and with no thought of self.



ABNER BUSHNELL

Troupe No. 23, Williamson High School
Williamson, West Virginia

Abner Bushnell is one of a group of real Thespians in troupe 23. He first won recognition as an actor in the role of Pap Todd in "Sun-Up" during his junior year. During his senior year, he played the part of Blunt in the "Jade God" with such careful interpretation that many of the audience pronounced him the best amateur they had ever witnessed. He also played the part of Lush in "Captain Applejack" the senior play.

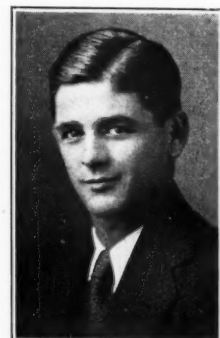
Not many high school students could handle so successfully such varied roles as Abner. One of the nicest things about him is his willingness to work hard to master any part assigned him. He is a really good Thespian.

DELMAR LUTON

Troupe No. 34, Fairview High School
Fairview, West Virginia

Delmar has played in major roles each of his four years in high school. This year he was elected by the group as the outstanding Thespian. Perhaps his best bit of acting was his excellent portrayal of Rufe in "Sun-Up". Besides his ease at getting into character, he has a lovely tenor voice and has had leading roles in the operettas "Cool Knights", "Knight of Dreams", "Singer of Naples" and "Miss Cherry Blossom".

He has appeared in "All on Account of Polly", "Mystery of the Third Gable", "Hundredth Trick", "Call of the Banshee", "My Lady's Rose", "Three Friends", "On the Stairs", "Sun-Up" and "Cat and the Canary".



MISS RUTH YOUNG

Troupe No. 53, Washington Gardner High School
Albion, Michigan

Ruth Young has done splendid work in "Is Zat So", "The Millionaire", many one-act plays and dramatic readings. She has also faithfully served as secretary of the troupe. Ruth accepts responsibility cheerfully. We regret losing her through graduation, but we believe she will still uphold the high standards of the Thespians.



BILL GOODYKOONTZ

Troupe No. 55, Beaver High School

Bluefield, West Virginia

Excellent judgment, willing service, and remarkable histrionic ability are the qualities of troupe 55's best Thespian, Bill Goodykoontz. His stellar roles were as the lover in "Submerged", which won third place in the state contest, and as the King in the senior play, "The Queen's Husband". Professional grace and skill characterize all his efforts.

ARTHUR BAKER, JR.

Troupe No. 68, Fergus County High School

Lewistown, Montana

Troupe No. 68 is proud of its representative, Arthur Baker. He made an instant hit as "Kenena" in "The Burglary at Brown's"; played the leading roles in the junior play, "Polishing Papa", and in "The Hurry-Up Bride"; wrote and directed an original one-act melodrama, taking a leading role in another play the same evening. He represented his school in the state declamatory contest at Missoula in May and won first place.



WILFORD GREEN

Troupe No. 73, Manistee High School

Manistee, Michigan

Wilford Green has in every way proven himself worthy of the title "Our Best Thespian". He has served as the president of the High School Drama Club for the past year. He has had parts in every play which the club has produced. He has always been willing to do whatever was needed for the betterment of the club.



JOE BUFFINGTON

Troupe No. 88, Point Pleasant High School

Point Pleasant, West Virginia

Joe Buffington, one of the best Thespians of troupe 88, was stage manager for the one-act play "Fixin's" which took second place in the West Virginia state one-act play contest held in Fairmont in 1931. He is president of the Dramatic Club, point chairman for Thespians, editor-in-chief of the high school annual.



MISS LUCILLE JANKE

Troupe 91, Isaac C. Elston Senior High School
Michigan City, Indiana

Lucille Janke, president of troupe 91, assumed the responsibility of coaching a Christmas play for the Girls' League, served on the committee which chose the annual senior class play, and had the leading role in a play presented at the Mother-daughter banquet. She also acted as chairman of the committee which planned our monthly dinners.



MISS KATHERINE MURPHY

Troupe No. 93, Stillwater High School
Stillwater, Minnesota

Miss Katherine Murphy, of troupe 93, has been a most efficient and loyal Thespian. She did excellent work in minor roles in "Sunshine" and "Cabbages" and as the heroine in "The Four-Flusher". She served willingly on committees and was always ready to cooperate with the director and other members to promote club activities.

MISS BETTY ROEFER

Troupe No. 94, York Community High School
Elmhurst, Illinois

Betty Roefor has been active in dramatics during all four years of her high school career. She represented York in the conference declamation contest in 1929 and again in 1931, and played the leading role in "The Radio Mystery", "The Inner Room", "Betty Becomes Engaged", "Ile", and "Art and Mrs. Palmer", all one-act plays. In the junior play "The Youngest", she took the part of Martha, and in "The Goose Hangs High", which was the senior play, she played the role of Mrs. Ingalls.

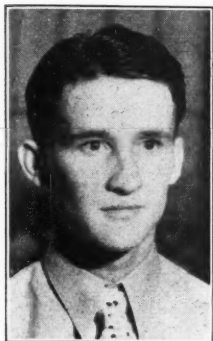
Betty has been president of the dramatic club for three years and it is with regret that we see her leave us. Because of her personality, her leadership, and her real dramatic ability we are proud to have her represent us as an outstanding Thespian.



LESLIE PRICE

Troupe No. 96, Loudon District High School
South Charleston, West Virginia

"Les" has shown marked ability in our school dramatics. We have found him willing to cooperate at all times. We are proud of him and are glad to give him recognition as our outstanding Thespian this year. He played the role of Ridgely Warren in our senior class play, "Agatha's Aunt".



RAYMOND EVANS

Troupe No. 113, Elizabeth Door High School
Clarksdale, Mississippi

Raymond Evans, a new member of Troupe 113, has been outstanding in the past year not only in local plays, but won recognition in the annual Delta one-act play tournament as James Dyke, the prisoner in "The Valiant", the play with which our troupe won second place. During the year Raymond has played the following roles: James Dyke in "The Valiant", Dr. Briggs in "The Real Gloria", and a leading role in "Betty Becomes Engaged". Raymond is president of the Thespians for the coming year.

WILLIAM BARTLETT

Troupe No. 114, Mount Vernon High School
Mount Vernon, New York

Bill Bartlett has just been admitted to the Thespians this year, but has made himself well-known for his dramatic ability in that short time.

During the past year he has had major roles in two one-act plays—"His Second Girl" and "The Finger of God"; a musical comedy, "Pickles", staged by the school, and George Kelley's three-act play, "The Torchbearers". Besides acting, he has also shown his ability as a director. "The Nimbey's Paws" and "The Finger of God" were both under his supervision.

Because of his outstanding work this year, Bill Bartlett was the unanimous choice of the Dramatic Society for president during the coming year, 1933.



MISS DORIS SHARES

Troupe No. 118, Oswego High School
Oswego, New York

Miss Doris Shares is our outstanding Thespian. In the past two years she has played the following roles: Agatha in "The Nut Farm", Marion Hardy (leading lady) in "Skidding", and Emily (leading lady) in "The Haunted House". Miss Shares has been secretary of the Dramatic Club and president of the Thespians.



WINTHROP GAY

Troupe No. 122, Newport News High School
Newport News, Virginia

Winthrop began his dramatic career two years ago in "Three Live Ghosts". Later the same year he appeared in "Little Old New York". However, his greatest dramatic success came with the presentation last fall of "House Party", in which he portrayed the sensitive, highly dramatic star, Allen Bradford. This was one of the finest performances ever given in our high school and the entire Thespian troupe was very proud of his success. This spring he appeared to excellent advantage in the part of Tony in "The Royal Family". He is also one of the students who will represent Newport News High School at the district and state tournaments, taking the part of the boy in "On the Lot". Winthrop has been awarded his dramatics letter and has been for several semesters a member of the National Thespians. Probably the most outstanding things about his work are his complete naturalness, his versatility, and his deep sense of the dramatic.



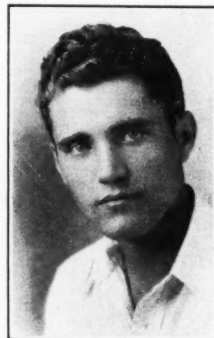
EDWIN J. JACKSON

Troupe No. 126, Alton Senior High School
Alton, Illinois

Edwin Jackson, a charter member of troupe 126, has a record in high school dramatics of which any student might well be proud. He has played major roles in "Adam and Eva", "The Wedding Present", "The Amazons", and "The Thirteenth Chair", where he did an exceptionally fine piece of work as the murderer. He was also in two operettas: "The Emperor's Clothes" and "In Old Louisiana", where his good tenor voice was used to advantage.

He has shown a fine spirit of cooperation with the coach and cast, and has not only ability, but is willing to work hard to master his roles. He has understanding and imagination, and has shown a real interest and ability in dramatics.

senior year, she received the honor and distinction of winning the medal for the best



MISS HELEN MIES

Troupe 128, Pontiac Township High School
Pontiac, Illinois

In the revue, "The Best Thespians of 1932", we are pleased to present Helen Mies, our diminutive president, who has worked long and tirelessly for the development of Troupe 128.

As a member of the P. T. H. S. Dramatic Club in 1930, Helen had major roles in "The Marchioness", and "The Minuet". In 1931 she proved herself worthy of Thespian membership by playing the part of Jane Hudson in "The Meanest Man in the World". This year she took the role of Mrs. Gerard in the senior play, "Broadway Jones".

Not only is Helen a clever little actress; she is also a good directress. She proved herself a real trouper in our play contest, for when her play lost, she worked just that much harder to insure the success of her fellow Thespian's winning play later entered in a university contest. Congratulations, Helen.



MISS LORRAINE LINDSEY

Troupe No. 146, Pekin Community High School
Pekin, Illinois

Miss Lindsey was voted the best Thespian of troupe 146 by the entire student body.

Lorraine has been prominent in dramatic work of all kinds all through her four years of high school. Last year in "Set a Thief", the junior class play, she played the leading role of Ann. This year the senior class play was "Daddy-Long-Legs" and Lorraine again played the lead, that of Judy Abbott. Just before the close of her senior year, she received the honor and distinction of winning the medal for the best individual acting in the part of Lydia in "Mansions" the one-act play which won the class B division of the Knox College one-act play tournament.



MISS DOROTHY NAOMI WILLIAMS

Troupe No. 149, Paragould High School
Paragould, Arkansas

Miss Williams won first place in North Eastern Arkansas junior high recitation contest, first place in State College (A. & M.) dramatic scholarship contest, and individual honors as the best player in the high school drama contest. She is a post graduate in expression from the local high school, and this year was graduated from high school. She expects to specialize in dramatics.





KERMIT ARNOLD

Troupe No. 160, East High School

Sioux City, Iowa

Through his energy and seriousness in undertaking dramatic productions, Kermit Arnold has been elected the best Thespian of troupe 160.

In the tragedy, "The Valiant", Kermit did a very creditable piece of work as the warden. In a ghostly play, "The Valley of Ghosts", he was congratulated for his almost perfect interpretation as the lawyer. His last performance was in "Once Upon a Time", a master production in which he had a lead.

Kermit's chief dramatic characteristics are his ease of interpretation and readiness in memorizing lines, regardless of the number.

MISS ELEANORE LIPPMAN

Troupe 165, Eveleth Senior High School

Eveleth, Minnesota

Eleanore Lippman, outstanding Thespian of troupe 165, has taken leading roles in "A Soul Made Clear", "The Marble Arch", and "Room 83", directed "Box and Cox", "The Marriage Proposal", and "Zaraguetta", and assisted in make-up for major productions. She won a scholarship in speech to Northwestern University in 1931. She is a charter member of the troupe and was its first secretary.



JAMES HEARIN

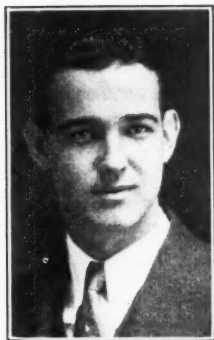
Troupe No. 172, Arkadelphia High School

Arkadelphia, Arkansas

James Hearin's executive ability has been so well recognized as to cause his unanimous election to the presidency of the Dramatic Club for two consecutive years. During this last year under his leadership, the Dramatic Club raised over \$500.00 for the curtain for the new high school auditorium, and sponsored several of the best theatrical productions in the history of the school.

He has shown marked talent in successfully playing major roles in two three-act plays, "The Patsy", and "The Cassillis Engagement", besides the one-act plays, "The Flitter Mouse", "The First Dress Suit", "Two Thousand Dollars Cash", "Enter the Hero", and scenes from "The Taming of the Shrew".

His scholastic records include presidency of the student council, presidency of the National Honor Society, and recognition in the scholastic poetry contest. His record in high school won for him a scholarship to the Louisiana State University upon his graduation from high school.



BURWELL HOWARD

Troupe No. 177, Orlando Senior High School

Orlando, Florida

Burwell Howard first received attention in high school dramatics in the role of George Brent in "Captain Kidd, Junior". He soon developed a flair for comedy and rounded out a year as an excellent vaudeville troupier. Not content with his comedy laurels he entered the one-act play contest as Captain Hill in the war drama "Nerves", a leading role, playing with such distinction that with the assistance of his fellow actors, he brought the play to first award in the Southern College Vagabond Tournament. Because of his splendid record in dramatics, he was elected president of the Seminole Players and National Thespians.

He opened the year as the lead in "The Sprightly Widow Bartlett", in which he proved to be a versatile actor of real merit. His characterization of King Richard in "Robin Hood, Inc." won him further laurels. His ability to star as a comedian was again demonstrated when he closed the year in a blaze of glory as the irrepressible Skinner in "Skinner's Dress Suit". He won the unanimous vote of best Thespian troupier.





MISS HENRIETTA HOFFMAN

Troupe No. 183, Reitz High School
Evansville, Indiana

Henrietta Hoffman began her career as a member of the Freshman-Sophomore Dramatic Society of Reitz High School. In her junior year she was elected to membership in the "Strut and Fret" players. Her talent was evident from the beginning and on a number of occasions she has brought credit to herself and her school in dramatics. Her most pleasing interpretation was given in "Op-O-Me-Thumb" in the role of Amanda Affick. This was the club's entry in the tri-state one-act play contest session of 1931. Not only is Henrietta a charming little actress but she has represented her school as a debater and orator as well.

KENNETH TORGESON

Troupe No. 185, Little Theatre, Austin High School
Chicago, Illinois

Since Mr. Torgeson made his platform debut in October, 1929, his dramatic activities have been as follows: As Monsieur Fleury in "The Admirable Crichton", as Mr. Inkwell in "The Pot Boiler", Headsman in "Six Who Pass While the Lentils Boils", Oscar Wolfe in "The Royal Family", Mr. Roberts in "The Travelers", Luka in "The Boor", End Man in C. I. C. Clean-up Minstrel Show", Duke Frederick in scene from "As You Like It", Petruchio in scene from "Taming of the Shrew", Senator Morris in "Original Washington Bi-Centennial Pageant", Disraeli in "Disraeli". He also took part in the talking ensemble in Hearst Movietone News Reel to advertise "The Royal Family".

Mr. Torgeson has taken part in the following broadcasts over station WCFL: "Make-up—On and Off the Stage", "George Arliss", and Disraeli in scenes from "Disraeli".

He has also served as stage manager for "Trifles", cooperating stage manager in Austin P. T. A. meeting, and make-up characters for play producing classes, Austin High School "Open House" Night, and Washington Bi-Centennial Pageant, and organizer of make-up class of the play production group.



BRUCE ARMSTRONG

Troupe No. 186, Ames Senior High School
Ames, Iowa

Bruce Armstrong, a charter member of Troupe 186, has been connected with most of the plays presented at Ames High School during the past three years. He has played in six three-act plays, including "So This Is London", the senior class play, in which he played Sir Percy Beauchamp, and "Children of the Moon", in which he played Judge Atherton, perhaps his most artistic role. For two successive years he held a major part in tournament one-act plays, Lem Carmalt in "On Vengeance Height" and Nat Bartlett in "Where the Cross is Made", both of which won first place. Backstage, as electrician and stage manager he has also done excellent work. Besides he has achieved distinction in a local marionette troupe, which sponsored the Thespian production of "Doctor Faust". In short, his dramatic activity has interestingly combined service, spirit, and interpretation.



FRED CHENEY

Troupe No. 191, Webster High School
Webster Groves, Missouri

The honor of "most valuable Thespian" in troupe 191 goes to Fred Cheney. He has played the part of Bruce Gordon in Channing Pollock's "The Enemy" with a fine restraint, bringing out the strong, quiet force of that character; as the king in Robert Sherwood's "The Queen's Husband", he again triumphed in a role which required an ability to project without straining for effect.

As stage manager for Maud Fulton's "The Brat" and Emerson and Loo's "The Whole Town's Talking" Mr. Cheney most effectively demonstrated his creative powers, his resourcefulness and his dependability. In the production of "The Brat" he superintended the creation and building of a modernistic set, complete in every detail, which undoubtedly was the peak in the dramatic department's creative effort in stage design and execution.



MISS ELEANOR DENSLAW

Troupe No. 198, Grove High School

Paris, Tennessee

The president of the local Thespians and of our high school Players Club is invested in one person—Miss Eleanor Denslaw. A 1932 graduate of Grove High School, Eleanor has played, during the year, major roles in several one-act plays, as well as the lead in the annual senior play. Her talents are not confined to acting. She has to her credit the direction of two publicly presented one-act plays; a southern publishing company has accepted for publication a short play of her composition.



PAUL NEWLON

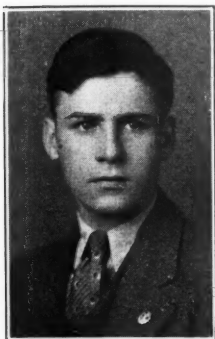
Troupe No. 200, Charleston High School

Charleston, West Virginia

Not only because of his excellent ability in dramatics, but because he has, better than any other, measured up to the high standards of a good Thespians, we elected Paul Newlon as our most worthy member.

In his junior year Paul had roles in "Not Quite Such a Goose", "Submerged", "Figureheads", and the three-act play, "Merton of the Movies". As a senior he portrayed major parts in one-act plays "The Twelve Pound Look", "Why the Chimes Rang", and "The Sleeping Beauty", and again in the three-act plays, "You and I", "To the Ladies", and "Just Suppose". In addition, he played the part of Paul Arloff in the one-act play "Highness", with which troupe 200 won first place in the state Thespians one-act play contest.

Paul was the first secretary of the troupe, and proved himself worthy of the position. Each of the widely variable roles which he played were portrayed with extreme sincerity and excellence for which a Thespians is noted.



JOHN DUMBRILLE

Troupe No. 201, Great Neck High School

Great Neck, New York

John is president of our Dramatic Club this year. On the strength of that, we also elected him president of our small Thespians troupe, inaugurated this year. Besides his consistent membership on scenery committees, his acting for which he is for more widely known consists chiefly of Donnie in "Pals First", and Ambrose in "Captain Applejack".



ROBERT WILLIAMS

Troupe No. 209, Hillside High School

Hillside, New Jersey

Our best Thespians in Hillside, Robert Williams, was chosen because of his unusually fine stage and electrical work. For three years he has been an invaluable asset to the Dramatic Club, not only in stage management, but also in scenery design and construction and publicity work. This year he designed and built a switchboard to take care of all stage lighting.





MISS MIRIAM BAKER

Troupe No. 210, Topeka High School
Topeka, Kansas

Troupe 210's selection of a representative Thespian is Miriam Baker. She was a charter member of the troupe and served as its first president. She played the role of Geraldine Marsh in "New Brooms", and that of Aunt Julia in "The Wedding". Miriam's outstanding contribution to the dramatic department of the school has been her work as student director of three plays: "The Wedding", "A Dispatch Goes Home" and "The Whole Town's Talking".

DAVID MYERS

Troupe No. 213, Central High School
Red Wing, Minnesota

We found it hard to choose our best Thespian, because we have so many students who have done splendid work in plays, worked hard on production staffs, and done much to promote dramatics in our school. Honorable mention should go to all these. But since there can be only one "best", we chose David Myers because of his all-round ability in dramatics. He has taken important parts in many plays including "Tiger House", "Robin Hood", "So This Is London", "The Decision at Dawn", and "Drums of Oude". Whether his part is a major one or minor one, a character part or a straight, we can depend on him to make that an outstanding role, and to give a careful and effective characterization. He has been stage manager, coach and scene shifter. He is president of our Thespian troupe, which was organized this year, and vice president of the High School Players. Besides being active in dramatics, David has taken a leading part in other school activities, being senior president, and taking part in oratory, publication work, and track.



RALPH LA ROCQUE

Troupe No. 215, Stambaugh High School
Stambaugh, Michigan

Ralph LaRocque, our best Thespian, is a senior in high school. He has an excellent voice, good physique, pleasing personality, and the ability to portray serious and dramatic roles. He is willing to work hard enough to master any part assigned to him. He memorizes lines promptly, and is helpful and courteous at rehearsals.

He has acted as the king in "Why the Chimes Ring", Philip Stanton in "Second Childhood", Orlando in "As You Like It", and Herr Strubel in "The Far Away Princess".

C. BEN SANGER

Troupe No. 222, Rye High School
Rye, New York

C. Ben Sanger, actor, poet, musician, and artist. Ben's job has been a large one during this, the first year of the Rye High School's existence. He has played in three shows, "The Youngest", "Gypsy Rover", and "R. U. R.". Besides this participation he has designed and superintended the execution of the scenery. His fantastic set for Rossum's Universal Robots was a masterpiece in high school scenery and brought gales of applause from the audience.

An unusual lad, this Ben Sanger. His poetry is charming, his acting unusually fine, his art work excellent, and he plays the piano beautifully. Unquestionably our best Thespian and we must lose him this year.



MISS MARION WITHERUP

Troupe No. 230, Pennsylvania Avenue High School
Cumberland, Maryland

Marion Witherup won honors when she was chosen the best Thespian. She played the part of Mrs. Archibald in "Bab", and was on the executive staff for "The Elopement of Ellen".

She was elected president of both the National Thespians and the school Dramatic Club.



MISS MAURNE HALES

Troupe No. 174, Miami High School
Miami, Arizona

Maurine Hales was chosen the best Thespian of troupe 174 for 1931-32. She has played leading roles in two three-act plays and three one-act plays during the last two years. As "the girl" in "The Valiant", she moved her audience to tears. Her versatility, willingness and loyalty have made her invaluable to school and troupe. She is a member also of the Quill and Scroll and the National Honor Society.

ALBERT McARTHUR

Troupe No. 176, Butte High School
Butte, Montana

Albert McArthur, our best Thespian, was chosen for his outstanding work in dramatics in four years of high school. His biggest accomplishment was the writing of the one-act play, "Thirteen Hundred Feet Under", which won second place in the National Scholastic Awards contest. Albest is our most capable president.

ROBERT DESMOND

Troupe No. 193, Simsbury High School
Simsbury, Connecticut

An outstanding member for four years and a charter member of Troupe 193, Robert Desmond reached the peak of his dramatic ability in "The Whole Town's Talking" as Henry Simmons. He has played major roles in the following productions: "Seventeen", "Merry Christmas In the Old Home Town", "The College Flapper", "The Romances", and "The Dust of the Road".

His promptness at rehearsals, his diligence in mastering his lines and his complete submergence into the character he is portraying have merited him the honor granted by his associates, our best Thespian. During the past year he served as vice president of the troupe. He is planning to continue his study of dramatics next year in some recognized school of the theatre.

MASCHA CRUMBAKER

Troupe No. 167, Abingdon High School

Abingdon, Illinois

Our most typical Thespian this year has been Mascha Crumbaker. Mascha has been the president of our high school Dramatic Club, and secretary-treasurer of our Thespian troupe. She has been very active in dramatic the last two years. In her junior year she had a lead in "It Happened In Hollywood", and this year played the part of Beulah in "The Things That Count". She has directed several one-act plays, as well as having appeared in several short plays, among these being "Crinoline and Candlelight".



HIGH EXCITEMENT IN THE "NUT FARM"



A SCENE FROM "SKIDDING"

Scenes from "THE NUT FARM" and "SKIDDING"
As presented at Natrona County High School, Casper, Wyoming
Miss Beulah Bayless, Director

TROUPE REPORTS

WHAT THE MEMBER
TROUPES HAVE DONE

Troupe No. 1

Natrona County High School

Casper, Wyoming

Troupe No. 1 of the National Thespians held three initiations during the year. Eighteen new members were added to our roll.

The dramatic season was opened with "Skidding" by Aurania Rouveral, presented Thursday, October 29th. The parts were all well handled, particularly the character part of Grandpa Hardy, played by Walter Jones. "Why the Chimes Rang" in co-operation with the music, art and sewing departments was staged twice during the Christmas season.

Eight one-act plays also under the direction of the dramatic coach, Beulah Bayless, were given before the high school assembly and at least two town organizations. A total of forty eight students took part in these plays.

During the second semester the A. K. A. Dramatic Club presented their annual play "The Nut Farm". The advertising of the play was done by one of the club members, Mildred Anon. She deserves much praise as the first student to handle the advertising of a school play alone. It was necessary to postpone the play twice because of a flu epidemic, but the production Monday, February 1, was very gratifying. Miss Marion Field assisted with the coaching.

Two Thespians were in the group from Natrona County High School to attend the First Rocky Mountain Speech Conference for Secondary School and Colleges at the University of Denver, January 9. "When the Red Army Marches", presented by the University Players, under the direction of Walter Sinclair, was a very interesting project in play production from the technical side particularly.

The operetta "The Count and the Co-Ed" sponsored by the music department and "The Goose Hangs High" by the English Club both added new members to the Thespians.

The annual Kiwanis one-act play contest was held April 7 and 8. Six one-act plays were entered in the preliminaries: "Guilty Hands", "The Last of the Low-

ries", "The Valiant", "Part-Time Job", "Rich Man, Poor Man", and "Pink and Patches". Three plays "Pink and Patches", "Rich Man, Poor Man", and "The Valiant" were chosen for the finals. "The Valiant" with a cast of Vernon Bently, Charles Bowman, Henry Frank, Mary Jane Beattie and Eugene Pelton, coached by Katherine Snow, placed first. Gloria Hopkins playing the part of Emma in "Rich Man, Poor Man" was awarded the prize for the best individual acting. Miss Marion Field also coached one play entered.

The final production of the year was the senior class play, "To the Ladies" by George S. Kaufman and Marc Connelly, May 20. This year has surpassed any other by the number of school plays sponsored by the Dramatic department—three major productions besides numerous one-act plays.

Beulah Bayless, Director.

Troupe No. 2

Fairmont Senior High School

Fairmont, W. Va.

Troupe No. 2 of the National Thespians has completed a full year of activities.

The Thespians in company with the National Forensic League, sponsored the bringing of Will Durant, famous philosopher and lecturer, and Birch, famous magician, to the Fairmont Senior High School.

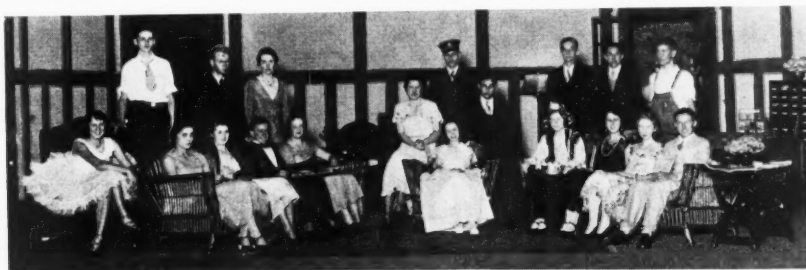
The club met every second and fourth Tuesdays. During the meetings phases of dramatics were studied. Talks were given on play producing, stage managing, make-up, lighting, properties, etc.

For the Christmas assembly, they presented "Beau of Bath", which has become a tradition. The play is to be presented at every Christmas assembly. It is the play which won first place at the state one-act play contest in the year 1931, by Fairmont High.

The Thespians followed their annual custom of presenting one three-act play. This year, on February 19, they presented "Mr. Pim Passes By".

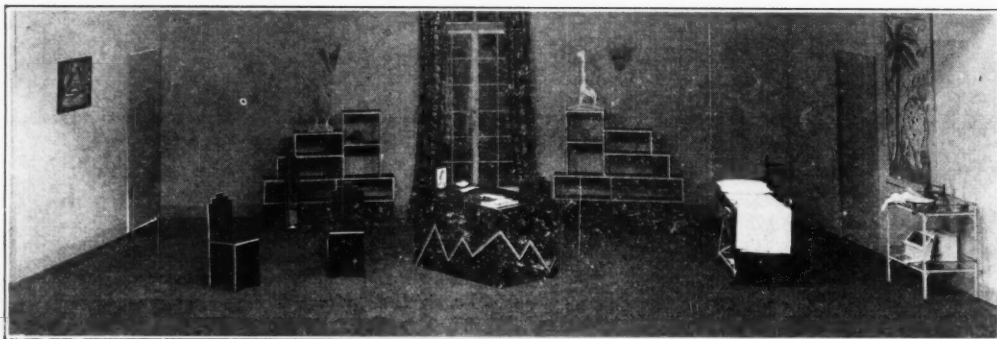
They also presented "Weinies on Wednesday", a one-act play.

During the year eleven new members were initiated into the club.

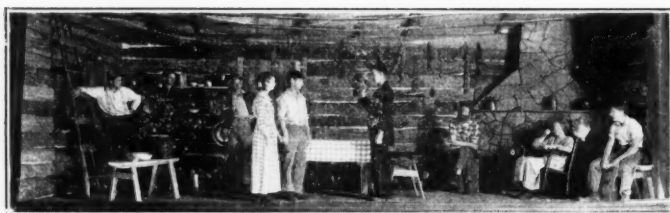


"A LUCKY BREAK"

Given by Troupe No. 91, Isaac C. Elston Senior High School, Michigan City, Indiana.
Miss Goldie Shepherd, Director



Stage Set for "THE BOOMERANG"
Bellevue High School, Bellevue, Ohio
Miss Louise Bell, Director



Scene from "SUN-UP"
Presented by Fairview High School, Fairview, W. Va.
Troupe No. 34, Miss Pearl Oster, Director



"POMANDER WALK"
Directed by Miss Dorothy Middleton
Elizabeth Dorr High School, Clarksdale, Miss.

On April 23, troupe 2 entered the state one-act play contest at Buckhannon. The play entered was "Her Country", and placed fourth.

In presenting plays, troupe 2 finds the three-cast system very effective. For each play three casts are chosen and at some date, chosen by the director, the casts present the play. The director, others of the club, and members of the casts then choose the best actors and actresses. These then compose the cast of the play.



Troupe No. 6

Weir High School

Weirten, W. Va.

Listen, fellow Thespians, and
I shall try
To introduce the Troupe that
dwells at Weir High
We've only been members for
two years, you know,
But, Shades of Shakespeare!
watch us grow.

VIRGINIA McDANIELS

N—now among the first to bring our charter fame
A—Adaline, Patty Lou, and Mary came,
T—then as no club could grow without boys,
I—in bounced Ralph and Albert full of noise.
O—the Inner Circle was a rare treat
N—needing the charm of Teresa and Ellen so sweet,
A—although Bill and Lois were far above par,
L—let's give Meyers a big hand, as Jonas, the star.

T—the one-act George Washington play
H—had Dorothy Campbell so quaint and gay
E—ere this cast could be taken from the stage
S—some Kiawanians tried our talent to engage.
P—please, Jack Spear, will you manage the show,
I—if we promise to let Flo Ziegfield go?"
A—an Aunt was needed in "Digging Up the Dirt"
N—near the adobe house, Virginia and the Prof did flirt.
S—so before we leave this dramatic set,

T—to Buckhanan, we'll waft a sigh of regret
R—received with all welcome our hearts could desire,
O—oh! where was that *First Place* we hoped to acquire?
U—"use your heads next year", advised friend Bob,
P—"pull for success, never whine or sob"
E—ever be happy and ready to mix,
with all the members of old Troupe 6.

Virginials McDaniels, Secretary.

Troupe No. 7

Terrebonne High School

Houma, Louisiana

The Terrebonne High School Thespians, Troupe No. 7, of the National Thespians, with the month of May concluded one of the most successful years since its organization in 1928. During the year each play presented

by the Guild was enthusiastically received by the public.

In the beginning of the school session, in an attempt to encourage a greater interest in dramatics, the members of the Guild conducted a meeting and elected the following officers: Harold Collins, president; Carl Fanguy, vice president and stage manager; Lois Poirrier, secretary.

During the past session the Guild presented four programs: three three-act plays and two one-act plays. The first play, "A Busy Honeymoon", was a three-act farce. It was followed by two one-act plays, "Jerry", and "O Henry, Where Are You?" and "Here Comes Patricia", a three-act comedy. The senior play, "Green Stockings", was the last production.

Just before the Christmas holidays the Guild presented "A Busy Honeymoon", a comedy of modern royalty in a modern setting. The cast was one of the most varied and talented assembled. After the Easter holidays "Here Comes Patricia" was enacted. It was an even more modern drama than the first one. The performances were assisted by the music department pupils and the school band.

The Midgets, a group of young players whose novel performances proved a success last year, returned in the major productions as well as in the two one-act plays, "Jerry", and "O Henry, Where Are You?"

The Guild at present has a membership of seventy pupils. Among those who have rendered conspicuous service are: Harold Collins, Marjorie de la Bretonne, Clara Collins, Jeanette Ellender, Maude Chauven, Jimmie Jacuzzo, Rita Mae Cenac, Ella Mae Dunn, Julius Hebert, Walton Richard, H. P. St. Martin, William Luke, Anne Robertson, Ray Walker, Felicie Wurzlowl, Homer Belanger, Gloria Laneaux, Alma Wall, Juanita Walton, Mae Oliver, Frances Parr, Geraldine D'Abadie, Loys Gaudet, Varna Mae Talbot, Royce Henry, Ruth Pellegrin, and Marjorie Schexnauldre.

The Guild is under the direction of Misses Micas, Marionneaux, Donaldson, Floyd, Menville, and Parr, teachers at the school.

In reviewing the past successes the Guild happily can say that this year has brought it a step nearer its goal: To make dramatics an essential part of every student's school career.

Lois Poirrier, Secretary.

Troupe No. 9

Anaconda High School

Anaconda, Mont.

Because of an unusual increase in membership, in spite of the depression, Troupe No. 9 has had its most successful year. From nine active members at the beginning of the year, this Troupe has grown to 33 active members, 16 of whom will be in school next year.

Our large membership has made it possible to produce more plays than before. During the year, we have produced "The Tempest" by Shakespeare, "Oh! Doctor", an operetta by Estelle and Palmer Clark, and "All-of-a-Sudden Peggy" by Ernest Denny, and many one-act plays. Our most successful short plays were "Aria da Capo" by Edna St. Vincent Millay and "The Birds do Sing", by Mrs. Roberts of Bozeman. The first named

was the one that we played at the annual "Little Theater" tournament in Missoula. Most of the one-act plays were given at meetings but several were given for the public at joint meetings held with the Deer Lodge Troupe.

The idea of having joint meetings has proven a success and has given us more fun than any of us imagined before we started. Getting acquainted with other groups of actors and learning their styles of acting helped us to improve our own.

Although we will have a new dramatics instructor, we promise bigger and better things for next year.

Oliver E. Rodgers, Secretary

Troupe No. 12

Sac City High School Sac City, Iowa

Dramatic activities for Troupe 12 began with "Three Live Ghosts", a production of the junior class. The leading parts in this were the ones portrayed by Thespians Maurice Brade, Allan Lindekugel, Vivian Olson, and Margaret Anderson.

Next came the four one-act plays presented by the public speaking class. This presentation included "Midnight Fantasy", "The Ghost Story", "If Men Played Cards as Women Do", and last but most certainly not least, Mary Caroline Davies' "Slave With Two Faces".

"Slave With Two Faces" was the play chosen to represent Sac City in the annual contest sponsored by the Drake University at Des Moines. For the third consecutive time, Sac City won first place in class B schools. Maurice Brady took the part of Life and Rachel Anne Molsberry and Margaret Anderson had the parts of the first and second girls. These three characters were ably supported by others in the mob.

The senior class play, "Captain Applejack", brings a successful close to the activities of the dramatic department. Thespians Gaylord Goodell, Kathryn Long, and Janice McCarl held the leading roles.

But in speaking of the actors and actresses we must not forget one of our most deserving Thespians, Catherine Irwin, on whom the responsibility of stage management and the collection of properties falls, and to whom we owe a great deal of credit for the lighting effects in "Slave With Two Faces".

Harriett Brynteson, Secretary.

Troupe No. 13

Pennsboro High School Pennsboro, W. Va.

The membership of our club was small this year but has probably been the most successful of all the other years.

The outstanding events of the work in the Pennsboro Troupe was the sponsoring of two one-act play contests, one given each semester. The contest consisted of four plays, one given by each of the four classes. The following plays were given in the first and second contests: "Printer's Ink" and "Her Country" were given by the freshmen. The sophomores gave "Ghost Hunters" and "The End of the Trail", "Station Y-Y-Y" and "Highness" were presented by the juniors. The seniors introduced "Not on the Program" and "Mansions". A one-judge decision was announced at the close of each con-

test. "Station Y-Y-Y", given by the juniors, won first place in the first contest and "Mansions", presented by the seniors, was winner of the second contest.

The contests seemed to create more interest and enthusiasm than anything else we have ever done in our Thespian Club. It also gave us an opportunity to see and hear the pupils from each class. The outstanding characters were then invited to become members of our Club.

Our direction, Mrs. Gladys R. Vincent, will not be with us next year and we shall miss her very much, but we are going to work harder so that she will be proud of the Pennsboro Thespian Club.

Troupe No. 13 hopes that the coming year will be the greatest success in dramatics.

Pauline E. Doak, Secy-Treas.

Troupe No. 17

Aurora High School Aurora, Nebr.

Troupe No. 17 of the National Thespians was established on May 16th. Eleven girls, four seniors and seven juniors, were initiated at a ceremony held in the high school auditorium. Members of the faculty were guests.

The Girls' Dramatic Club has been an active organization since 1926. Each year the club has presented a number of one-act plays which have been given before various school and community groups. This year's three-act production was the mystery comedy drama "Skeet".

The club will be reorganized and boys will be admitted to membership. An initiation of students eligible for the Thespians will be held in September.

The installation of Troupe No. 17, coming so late, has meant a mere beginning. However, judging by the enthusiasm aroused now, the Thespians will serve to intensify interest and activity in dramatics not only in the club but in the whole high school.

Troupe No. 23

Williamson High School Williamson, W. Va.

The National Thespian Society of Williamson High School has been a success through the cooperation of our sponsor, Miss Rose G. Smith and its members.

The mid-year play "The Jade God", was successfully staged February 5, 1932.

All members of the dramatic club are given a chance to prove themselves capable of performing parts suitable to their personal character in the regular try-outs, which last for about one week before the real work begins for the plays and this lasts for about three weeks before the play is ready to be given.

Our senior play, "Captain Applejack", was a great success financially and dramatically.

The aim of our club is to bring out, to the highest extent, the student's abilities as an actor. We, the seniors of 1932, feel that due to the efforts and devotion of our director, Miss Smith, we have met these requirements and believe that in the years to come there will be just as many well-trained dramatists to graduate from Williamson High School as there have been in previous years.

Gladys Isabelle Bevins

Troupe No. 27**Morgantown High School****Morgantown, W. Va.**

When school began on September 8, 1931, we had only nine Thespians. That number was very small considering the fact that there were more than 1,200 students in school. Our first problem, therefore, was to increase our membership. Several plays were presented by various organizations and a few people were able to meet the requirements for membership. Then, on January 7, 1932, the troupe presented three highly successful plays. They were "Thank You, Doctor", "Bread", and "A Wedding". After the presentation of these plays thirteen students were eligible for membership. These were initiated on February 5th. Later we were able to bring our total membership for the year to twenty-six.

Our bi-monthly meetings were conducted by members of the organization. At the invitation of the program committee, Miss Katharine Burch, a public speaking major in West Virginia University, attended one meeting and presented two interesting readings.

The work necessary to the production of the three plays was done by Thespians and those who later became members of the organization. All members of the production staff, including business, programs, properties, and stage were Thespians. All of the sets and scenery used in the plays were made, repaired and set up by members of our Troupe.

For the first time since the local Troupe was organized we entered the state one-act play contest held at West Virginia Wesleyan College at Buckhannon on April 22-23. We had planned to enter a serious drama but found that another Troupe had reserved it before our application reached the National Secretary. We failed to find another play which could be prepared in the short time we had and as a result of this situation we entered the comedy "A Wedding". Although it did

not win a prize, the play afforded the audience some real enjoyment and our Troupe derived a great deal of benefit from participation in the contest.

Two three-act senior plays were presented during the second semester, namely, "Drums of Death" and "Tons of Money". In both of these productions Thespians had leading roles.

Officers during the past year were: President, Charles Case; vice president, Daun King; secretary-treasurer, Selma Klein. The election of officers for 1932-33 was held at the last meeting of the year with the following results: President, Edward Carroll; vice president, Barbara Armstrong; secretary-treasurer, Alice Case. Mabel Ruth Taylor, Director.

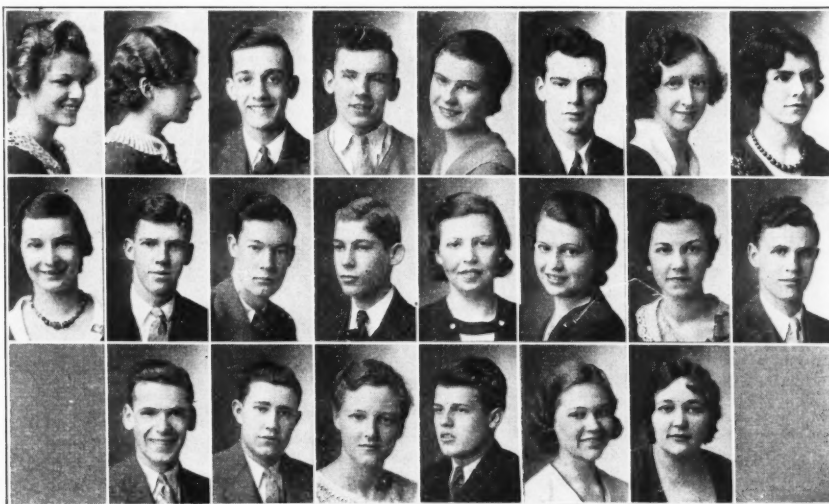
Troupe No. 34**Fairview High School****Fairview, W. Va.**

We have been organized three years. We meet once a week with the Dramatic Club at our co-curricular period, and at our regular meeting time on the first and third Thursday nights of the month.

The casts for our plays are chosen from the Dramatic Club and the Thespians, but the nucleus is from the Thespian group. Last year we gave "The Call of the Banshee", "New Toys", "The Cat and the Canary", "Words", and we repeated "The Valiant". This past year we opened our season with a musical comedy, "Cool Knights", which drew a cast of about ten majors, with choruses of about forty. In December, we presented "On the Stairs", a clever mystery.

During the winter, at various assembly periods, the Dramatic Club and Thespians gave a series of one-act plays, among them, "The Trysting Place", "My Lady's Rose", "Miss Tasse, and "Three Friends".

We consider our commencement play, "Sun-Up", our chief success for the year. In the three years of our



TROUPE No. 27
Morgantown High School, Morgantown, West Virginia
Miss Mabel Ruth Taylor, Director



TROUPE NO. 34
Fairview High School, Fairview, W. Va.
Miss Pearl Oster, Director

existence, no crowd or proceeds exceeded that at "Sun-Up".

Our janitor is especially clever and handy at stage craft. He procured slabs from a nearby sawmill and constructed a real log cabin interior on our stage. We tacked heavy yellow paper, which, under the lights, resembled mud between the cracks. To reduce the height of the stage to that of a mountaineer cabin, we made a ceiling of slabs and heavy brown paper. Our "stone fireplace" was made of heavy gray roofing painted to represent large stones. In and around it, we used an old iron pot, frying pan, old-fashioned hearth-broom, etc. Slabs made the benches, table and also crude bunk which we covered with an old "crazy-quilt". Strings of dried corn, beans, and apples hung from the rafters, and several old muskets and powder horns added to the general effect. Our dimmers worked the various effects of sun-up and sunset, and huge electric fans did the double duty of storm sounds and blowing the artificial snow in through the cabin door and window when they were opened. Our mountaineer men neither shaved nor had haircuts during the weeks of rehearsal, and Ma Cagle practiced on her corn-cob pipe until on the night of the play it seemed a part of her.

Four of our ten actives were graduated this year, but we are looking forward to doubling our membership in our fall initiation. Troupe 34 extends greetings to its fellow chapters.

Pearl Oster, Director.

Troupe No. 53

Washington Gardner High School
Albion, Michigan

This has been a most eventful and successful year for the Thespian Troupe No. 53. We have had twenty-six members, eight former ones and eighteen new initiates. Six of these were eligible from the breeze play, "The Millionaire", ten from the junior "Ex", "Polly with a Past", and two from the operetta, "Up in the Air".

We presented a one-act play, "The Day that Lincoln

Died", for a high school assembly and other groups. We also worked on several other one-act plays during the year.

We were fortunate to be allowed to attend a college play "Children of the Moon", a tragedy, at special prices through the courtesy of Theta Alpha Phi and the director. After the play, we enjoyed the privilege of going back stage to see the setting and the methods of producing the sound effects.

This year, after many enjoyable meetings and programs, we concluded our activities with a picnic. Graduation has taken seventeen from us, leaving only nine members, but we hope to make up for it next year.

Nancy Farley, Secretary.

Troupe No. 55

Beaver High School
Bluefield, W. Va.

Troupe 55 won third place in the state one-act play tournament held at Buckhannon, W. Va. The troupe presented there the one-act play "Submerged".

Members of the troupe helped also in major roles in plays presented by other organizations of the school. Among these were "Polly with a Past", "Man or Mouse", and "The Queen's Husband".

Troupe No. 68

Fergus County High School
Lewistown, Montana

During the season of 1931-32 the dramatic work of Fergus County High School met with outstanding success. A very talented group of students brought each and every production they attempted to an unusually high standard of perfection.

Two performances, matinee and evening, were given of the first play of the season, "The Burglary at Brown's", a mystery comedy. Preceding this three-act play, a one-act, "The Drums of Oude" was given.

For the spring performance, always given during the Farm Convention Week in Lewistown, a program of one-acts was selected, representing the dramatic literature of different nations. "The Thrice Promised Bride", by Hisuing, represented the Chinese; "A Minuet", by Louis N. Parker, the French; and "The Hurry-Up Bride", by Lawrence E. Johnson, the American point of view. "The Boor", by Anton Tchekhov, was given a little later before the state school board convention.

The junior class play, "Polishing Papa" was a riot of fun for the audience, and for the actors, too. In May, a program of original one-act plays was sponsored by the Thespians. They called it "Our Fun Revue" and it was one of the decided hits of the season. The senior class play, given late in May, was the four-act comedy, "Bab", by Edward Childs Carpenter, which offered an opportunity for some very clever characterizations by the talented young actors.

In addition to the main public performances, a number of one-acts were given before school assemblies, etc. "Tea and Algebra" was given early in the fall, during the session of the state teachers' convention, and later the Dramatics I class presented "The Unseen" and "The Man in the Bowler Hat". In all, three full length plays were publicly presented, and some twelve or more one-acts.

At the last meeting of the year, Mr. Arthur Baker was elected president of the Troupe for next season, and Miss Anna Louise Songer was elected secretary-treasurer.
Eveline Eccles, Director.

Troupe No. 73

Manistee High School

Manistee, Mich.

The Manistee High School Troupe of National Thespians have been very active in the past year.

"Peg O' My Heart" was selected as the junior class

play and was presented by a well trained cast under the direction of Kari Natalie Reed. This play was an outstanding success in every way.

In December several members of the cast had the opportunity of seeing the same play given by a near-by high school.

In April the High School Drama Club, who are more experienced, presented the clever comedy, "Wedding Bells". This play was under the direction of Miss Helen Lloyd, advisor of the club. They also presented two one-acts: "The Trysting Place" and "A Court Room Burlesque". The latter proved to be so popular that it was repeated several times.

The scenery for "Wedding Bells" was a type which had never been used before in the high school. It was very effective although not quite as elaborate as that previously used.

Three past members of the National Thespians have already distinguished themselves. Miss Lorraine Anderson, who was graduated from the Jessie Bonstelle School of Dramatic Art in Detroit is now playing with a well known stock company in Minneapolis. Eugene Eumunson, a freshman enrolled in Michigan State Normal, has appeared in the leading role in "Allison's House", a Pulitzer prize play. Also Robert Miller, who was elected our best Thespian last year, is working on the staff of our local newspaper, and is leader of his own orchestra.

In June the Speech class gave a matinee consisting of two one-act plays, "It Ain't My Fault" and "Submerged". Several Thespians had parts in these plays and one play was under the direction of William Ferguson, president of the Thespians for 1931-32.

In April, ten students who had qualified for membership were taken in. Our Troupe now has a membership of twenty.

Robert C. Ode, President



TROUPE No. 79
Port Arthur Senior High School, Port Arthur, Texas
Mr. Francis B. Dunn, Director



TROUPE No. 87
Logan County High School, Sterling, Colorado
Miss Irene Barber, Director

Troupe No. 87

Logan County High School Sterling, Colo.

Troupe No. 87 of Logan County High School wishes to report a very happy and successful year. Our first production in the fall was the one-act comedy, "His First Dress Suit". The cast loved doing it, and it was so well received that it was given a number of times before various organizations in the city.

In November we had a delightful time with Milne's "Romantic Age". This was our loveliest production, from the viewpoint of settings and costumes.

We felt very proud of our activities during National Drama Week. We presented a one-act play at each as-

sembly during the week. Each afternoon after school we had a matinee or one or two plays. These were open to the public and were well attended by students as well as outsiders. Some of the plays which were presented on these programs were: "Bargains in Cathay", "The Thing", "In the Heart of a Clown", "Thursday Evening", "Just Women", "A Woman of Character", and "White Elephants".

"Washington at Mount Vernon", was our choice for Washington Bicentennial programs.

"Love-in-a-Mist", the senior class play, was produced by an all Thespian cast.

"Gray Faces" was the concluding Thespian performance of the year. It was presented for our Good Will Day program.

James Roysds, Secretary.



TROUPE No. 91
Isaac C. Elston High School, Michigan City, Indiana
Miss Goldie Shepherd, Director



TROUPE No. 93
Stillwater High School, Stillwater, Minnesota
Miss Ethel E. Armstrong, Director

Troupe No. 91

Isaac C. Elston Senior High School Michigan City, Ind.

There were eight members in our Troupe at the beginning of the fall term. During December nine new members were initiated into the group. In April, after the senior play, four more students became members of our organization.

The members carried out a successful project during the first semester. They supervised and financed the building of a stage for the organizing of a Little Theater. This stage, with its necessary equipment, was ready for use in February.

In December two of the girls coached a play, "Those Christmas Gifts", for the Girls' League. In this month, also, the senior members chose the annual senior play.

Eight members of our Troupe presented a one-act play, "Mother's Day Off, or Father's Day On", before the P. T. A. at its January meeting.

At the annual Mother-Son banquet on February 16, four boys gave a one-act comedy, "If We Did As Our Mothers Do". Four Thespian girls gave a short sketch at the Mother-Daughter banquet, which was held on May 3.

The officers for this year were:

Lucille Janke	President
Beatrice Ragsdale	Vice President
Ruth Evert	Secretary
James Turnpugh	Treasurer
Miss Goldie Shepherd	Director
Ruth Evert,	Secretary.

Troupe No. 93

Stillwater High School Stillwater, Minn.

The Stillwater Troupe had, on the whole, a very successful year. Its members were much in demand for school productions, and did creditable work. The club

produced "Enter Dora—Exit Dad" for a special assembly program, and the play was later sent to a neighboring school as an exchange program. We raised some much-needed funds by the production of "Cabbages", which was repeated as a part of the class night program. "The Wonder Hat", the senior offering in the annual inter-class play contest was cast entirely from the Thespian Club.

The club is rated "the best in high school" by its members, and younger students look forward to the time when they can belong. In this way, we feel that we are gradually helping to raise the standards of dramatic work in our high school.

We have found that interest has grown since we've held two meetings each month. One is purely a business meeting, held at school. The other is an evening meeting combining business and social affairs.

Ethel Armstrong.

Troupe No. 94

York Community High School Elmhurst, Illinois

Troupe No. 94 most enthusiastically closes its first year of real activity in National Thespians. Two years ago the charter was granted, but not until this year have conditions made it possible for it to become active.

The first production on the year's dramatic program was Drama Night, the annual production of three one-act plays presented by the Dramatic Club. All but two of this year's Thespians were members of the club, and most of them carried important roles in the plays presented: "The Teeth of the Gift Horse", "Ile", and "The Florist Shop". Just before Christmas holidays, the club again presented a one-act play, "Fiat Lux", the leading parts of which were taken by Thespians.

"The Goose Hangs High" was the senior play, and in spite of a postponement of two weeks because of the illness of one of the players, the production was termed

a marked success. The junior play, "The Charm School", very successfully ended the regular season for the school.

But the eleven members of the first Troupe of Thespians were not content to leave school without first appearing all together in a program entirely their own. So they presented in the school assembly two one-act plays, "Art and Mrs. Palmer" and "Winners All", which

very successful. During the two years and a half of our work as Thespians we have been instrumental in staging seven long plays and several one-act plays for chapel and for contests. The long plays which we presented were : "Cat O' Nine Tails", "The Mummy and the Mumps", "The Patsy", "Laff that Off", "Agatha's Aunt", "The Yellow Shadow", and "Blind Dates". We have es-



TROUPE NO. 94
York Community High School, Elmhurst, Ill.
Miss Dorothy Smith, Director

were entirely student productions, directed by a student. They succeeded in showing the school what Thespians really could do.

Eleven members of the sophomore and junior classes have earned the right to places in the Troupe and to take the place of the eleven seniors who graduate and leave the group. We hope next year for an even more profitable year of activity.

Dorothy Smith, Director.

Troupe No. 96

Loudon District High School
South Charleston, W. Va.

Since our organization in 1930, Troupe 96 has been

established for ourselves a creditable reputation among students and the citizens of the city.

The receipts from our productions this year have been used in payment on our new stage equipment and for membership fees of new members taken into the Troupe this year.

Our plays have always been very successful, and the receipts as well as the audiences have been large.

In May of this year we held a banquet under the auspices of the school Dramatic Club for all Dramatic Club members and National Thespians, both in and out of school. We find this an excellent way of keeping our Alumni Thespians and school Thespians in closer contact with each other.



TROUPE NO. 96
Loudon District High School, South Charleston, W. Va.
Miss Mary McNeil, Director

We hold our meetings twice a week during club periods. These meetings are held in connection with the Dramatic Club, which we encourage as a junior to Thespians.

Our work is carried on in cooperation with graduate Thespians of the town.

At our last meeting of this year, we elected our officers for next year. With these new officers and a new zeal, our prospects are of the brightest for the coming year. Our final, impressive initiation was also held at this meeting. Eleven new members were taken in at this time.

Troupe No. 99

Weston High School Weston, W. Va.

The activities of Troupe 99 for the year just past were somewhat curtailed owing to the unusual economic situation. Weston and Lewis county have been without a bank since October, and money has been very scarce. As a consequence, the local Thespians did not produce as many plays as they had planned, but they hope to be able to become an active producing organization next year.

Interesting and instructive monthly meetings were held from October until May, inclusive. One of the most

pleasing of these featured the appearance of Miss Anne Griffin, a graduate in expression from Seton Hill College, who read "The Beau of Bath" and other selections, all of which were thoroughly enjoyed.

The Thespians had charge of one of the school assembly programs and presented a one-act play which was enthusiastically received and which was pronounced by many the best high school play ever given locally.

In conjunction with the Blue and Gray band, Troupe No. 99 sponsored a musical program, from which a sufficient sum was realized to defray the expenses incurred by entering the Thespian play tournament at Wesleyan College. Less than a week before the tournament the previously planned entry, "The High Heart", had to be withdrawn, and "The Valiant" was substituted for it. Although very few rehearsals for this could be held, one member of the cast, Glen Nicholas, made the all-state cast.

Thespians had the major roles in eleven one-act plays presented by the high school Dramatic Clubs and in the three-act plays, "The Call of the Banshee" and "The Yellow Shadow", given by the junior and senior classes.

Interest in The Thespians is keen throughout the school, and membership is eagerly sought, so that Troupe 99 should grow and develop next year until its influence becomes a potent factor in our high school life.



TROUPE No. 103
Neenah Senior High School, Neenah, Wisconsin
Miss Ruth Dieckhoff, Director

Troupe No. 103**Neenah Senior High School
Neenah, Wis.**

A year ago the secretary prophesied a great year ahead for Troupe 103, Neenah, Wisconsin. That prophecy has certainly been fulfilled.

On December 4, the Troupe presented to an audience of over 800 people, that well known thriller by Bayard Vieller, "The 13th Chair". Five of the leading roles were played by old Thespians. Who in that audience will forget the pathos of Madame La Grange as portrayed by Estelle Brown! All nine new members became eligible through their work in this capital mystery.

In place of the usual three one-act plays sponsored by the Thespians, the school, in celebration of the Washington Bi-Centennial, presented a pageant by Phillis Marshall, "The Spirit of Americanization". Many Thespians took part in this beautiful and unusual pageant. An unusual feature was the speaking chorus in which there were several Thespians. The role of the Chronicler, upon whose shoulders fell the task of presenting the events in the pageant, was carried by one of our senior Thespians, Donald Meyer. As George Washington, Robert Ozzane was very excellent. Bob is another senior Thespian.

On March 17 the Winnebago Players, Little Theater group of Neenah-Menasha, presented "The First Year", in which the leading parts were taken by Estelle Brown and Gordon Bennett, two Thespian alumni.

Early in the year the Thespians brought to Neenah the Beckley Players, a new stock group who we feel sure will succeed in the field. This group presented "The Importance of Being Earnest", by Oscar Wilde.

The last play of the year was that amusing comedy "Captain Applejack", presented by the senior class. Four

Thespians took leading roles in the play. The part of Anna Veleska was very cleverly handled by Charlotte Durham, and Ambrose was most amusingly portrayed by James Shell.

During the year the Thespians presented a delightful little one-act play which was used to stimulate interest in the state basketball tournament.

Through the Neenah Chapter of the Thespians, dramatics have taken their place as a major activity.

Maurice L. Hunt, Secretary-Treasurer.

Troupe No. 105**Yuma Union High School
Yuma, Arizona**

National Thespian Troupe No. 105 of Yuma, Arizona, held three initiations, attended the showing of "Mata Hari" at the local theater, presented several skits, and sponsored dramatic interest in the high school during the school year of 1931-32.

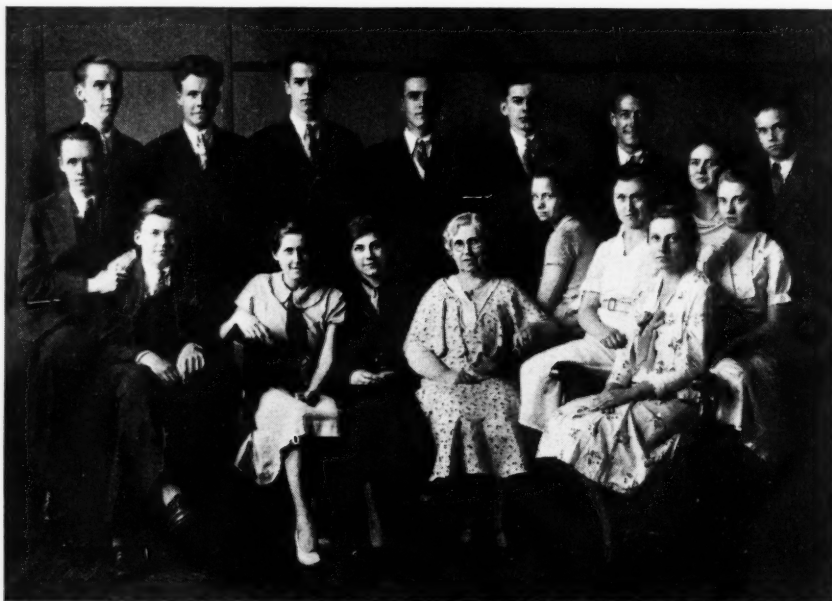
Thirteen new members were accepted for membership, two initiations being held during the school year, and one for seniors who participated in the senior play at the close of the year, during the summer.

"Mata Hari" was attended for the purpose of discussion of the dramatic talent displayed.

Members of Troupe 105 naturally took the leadership in the class plays, "Tweedles" and "Broken Dishes", and the Dramatic Club productions, "Alison's House", "Highness" and "Why the Chimes Rang".

Miss Mabel Cloyd sponsored the Dramatic Club and the National Thespian groups.

Louise Taylor, president, and Robert Kimball, secretary, led Troupe 105 during the first of the year, while Madora Ingalls and Jean Smith were in charge the remainder of the year.



TROUPE No. 107
Newport High School, Newport, Vermont
Miss Kate E. Ferrin, Director

Troupe No. 107**Newport High School
Newport, Vt.**

Troupe No. 107 was organized in the school year of 1929-30, with only seven members. The group now consists of seventeen members. Admission of new members has taken place at three times during the school year, the first group consisting of five members, the second, two, and the third, four.

As Thespians, the group has made no presentations, but members of the Troupe have taken part in every dramatic performance given by the school this year. During the year, plays which have been presented by members of our club are: "A Proposal Under Difficulties", by Bangs; "Two Crooks and a Lady", by Pollet; "The Exchange", by Thurston; "A Marriage Proposal", "The Albany Depot", and "A Letter of Introduction", by William Dean Howells; "Daddy Long Legs", by Webster, and "The Perfect Alibi", by A. A. Milne.

The three one-act plays, "A Marriage Proposal", "The Albany Depot", and "A Letter of Introduction", were

its existence, work on the speaking choir. This group also had charge of the dramatic part of the program given at the all high school Christmas party.

The high point of the year's activities consisted of a party given at the schoolhouse at which Erna Zierath, Laurence Baltzer, Ethel Mae Vaala, and Isabelle Davies were initiated.

The custom established last year of closing the year's work and fun with a banquet and initiation was carried out again this year. Baird McIlroy and Donald McCulloch were initiated.

Margaret Wolff, Director.

Troupe No. 113**Elizabeth Dorr High School
Clarksdale, Miss.**

During the third year of the activities of the Thespians, Troupe No. 113, under the leadership of our director, Miss Dorothy Middleton, more has been accomplished than ever before in the history of our Troupe.

Two one-act play tournaments with student directors were conducted. The first tournament included the plays



TROUPE No. 110
New Hampton High School, New Hampton, Iowa
Miss Margaret Wolff, Director

given at Christmas time as a free contribution to the public. The entertainment was entitled, "An Evening with William Dean Howells".

"The Exchange" was one of a group of three plays presented by the dramatic groups of Orleans, Barton and Newport in a series of inter-community programs initiated by our group.

We have had two large gatherings this year at which members were taken in, business transacted, and a social hour enjoyed.

Although graduation has taken several of our group, our director, Miss Kate Ferrin, holds high hopes for a growing Troupe of Thespians.

We feel that our work has been both profitable and inspiring, and we hope that our school will continue to raise its standard in this field.

Eleanor V. Young, Secretary.

Troupe No. 110**New Hampton High School
New Hampton, Iowa**

The National Thespian Troupe of New Hampton High School had for its chief project during this third year of

"Gettin' Acquainted", directed by Catherine Harrison which took first place; "Betty Becomes Engaged", directed by Carolyn Nance; and "In Spite of our Families", directed by Betsy Anne Mohead. In the second group were "The Valiant", placing first, directed by Anne Wynne Allen; "The Florist Shop", directed by Melvin Downing, and "The Real Gloria", directed by Marian Nail, which placed second. As a grand finale to the tournaments the three best plays, "The Valiant", "The Real Gloria", and "Gettin' Acquainted" were presented as a group before an appreciative club audience.

On March 29 we entered the annual one-act play tournament sponsored by Delta State Teachers College with "The Valiant", winning second place and losing first place by only one point. The cast was as follows:

The Warden.....	Harold Sanders
James Dyke.....	Raymond Evans
Father Daly.....	Robert Kremser
The Girl.....	Marian Nail
The Jailor.....	Clarence Hutchinson
The Attendant.....	Clarence Hutchinson

On May 9 the twelve new members of the Troupe were initiated. Only four members will be left for the coming session owing to the graduation of the other members.

As the last production of the year "Pomander Walk", the annual senior play, was sponsored by Thespians. It was perhaps the most successful production of the year. The stage setting was especially remarkable, and was in our opinion an accomplishment worthy of note.

Marian Nail, Secretary.

Troupe No. 114

Mount Vernon High School

Mount Vernon, N. Y.

The Dramatic Society of the Mt. Vernon High School has had a most successful year. According to our custom, we have presented five performances, the first four being one-act plays with "curtain-raisers" preceding, and the last a three-act play.

The year was started off with a short humorous dialogue, "Etiquette", as the "curtain-raiser", and "His Second Girl" as the main attraction. Both these plays are comedies. The next performance gave a good opportunity for dramatic ability to be shown in the "Monkey's Paw". The tenseness and suspense of the play were well carried out. The "curtain-raiser" for this play was "The Artist" by A. A. Milne. The following performance included "The Finger of God" and "The Gate". These plays are good contrasts and as a result, were well received by the audience. "The Gate" is an especially good play for a high school production as it gives excellent opportunity for character portrayals and an interesting set—that of the waiting room of a newspaper office, behind which is a gate. The fourth of this series included "Catsbey", by Percival Wilde, and a comedy, "Mrs. Pat and the Law". Due to the unfortunate condition of our auditorium at that time, the plays were presented under a great handicap—without stage, lights, or scenery—in the gymnasium.

The great success of the year was the three-act play by George Kelley, "The Torchbearers". This is a difficult play, but our society (most of those in this play were Thespians) showed its metal by "putting the play over" for two nights as the crowning success of the year. The second act has a most unusual set—the backstage of a theater. We of the audience see the nervous actors, the frantic director, and the much-used prompter of a very amateur play behind the scenes, and the result is uproariously funny.

Besides the strictly dramatic productions of the year, the music and art departments, together with the Dramatic Society, presented the musical comedy, "Pickles". With its colorful Viennese setting, tuneful songs, and clever lines, "Pickles" went over "big".

The Thespian organization in the Mt. Vernon High School is rapidly growing and becoming one of our outstanding activities. This year in two initiations we have admitted fifteen new members, making twenty-five in all.

With enthusiasm, good honest hard work, and the excellent direction of Mrs. Laura MacDonald, Miss Eleanor Young, and Mr. Laurence Carrier, we are able to look back on a most enjoyable and successful year.

Frances Dering, Secretary.

Troupe No. 116

Mount Vernon High School

Mount Vernon, Ind.

National Thespians of Troupe 116 in Mt. Vernon High School do not, as a group, actively produce plays. We have a dramatic Club of a possible membership of fifty pupils, who are elected from among those students who maintain a scholastic average of F, approximately 85 per cent, from the sophomore, junior and senior classes. This group is known as Footlight Performers, and active membership qualifies a student for National Thespian honors. Our club meets regularly every other week and maintains a program of study and entertainment besides being engaged in play production about four-fifths of the school year.

Our roll of active members for the year 1931-32 included as officers: Raben Schenk, president; Dolores Pearce, vice president; Hazel Robb, secretary, and Suzanne Stinson, treasurer, and members, William Steckler, Herbert Hyott, Genevieve Martin, Edward Hansman, Malcolm Fubrer, Herbert Whipple, Marijohn Cleveland, Elinor Fay O'Bannon, Marjorie Utley, Mary Blanch Grabert, and Lloyd Peerman. The newly elected officers for the year 1932-33, are: Herbert Whipple, president; Herbert Hyott, vice president; Marjorie Utley, secretary, and Marijohn Cleveland, treasurer.

We have given two three-act plays, both comedies, "Boomerang", and "Digging Up the Dirt". Of the six one-act plays given, four were student directed by Genevieve Martin, Suzanne Stinson, Dolores Pearce and Elinor Fay O'Bannon and Marijohn Cleveland, jointly. Our one-acts included "The First Thanksgiving Dinner", "Dust of the Road", "Not Quite Such a Goose", "At the Stroke of Twelve", "The Grand Old Man", and "Weinies on Wednesday". We were glad to furnish entertainment for our local farm bureau and the state Sunshine Society convention which Mt. V. H. S. entertained this year.

We firmly believe in drama for drama's sake, but are also glad when our finances allow us to contribute something to the school which will add to the attractiveness and value of our stage. Besides paying all production expenses in the past five semesters, we have bought an eleven piece set of reversible flats.

The past two years eight schools in the tri-state district have entered a one-act play contest. Mt. Vernon played "Dust of the Road" this year and although we did not place first, we feel there is a value gained from participation in a friendly contest.

Let this serve as a director's postscript. As our secretary signs this report she will add a name of her National Thespian role name. She has played with merit matron's roles in several plays and so has now since her graduation in May assumed a young matron's role for life.

We wish luck and dramatic joys to all fellow Thespians.

Catherine S. Howard, Director.



TROUPE No. 118
Oswego High School, Oswego, New York
Miss Gladys Steenberg, Director

Troupe No. 118

Oswego High School Oswego, N. Y.

The dramatic season was opened at Oswego High School by Troupe 118 with the three-act comedy "Skidding". "Princess Ting-a-Ling", a musical comedy, followed. This was sponsored by the music department with several of our outstanding Thespians in the leading roles. The final major production of the year was given in May, "The Haunted House", a three-act mystery. This was well received both nights. The proceeds were used to purchase new stage furniture.

About a dozen one-act plays and a series of tableaux commemorating the life of Washington were presented at the weekly auditorium programs. Students and faculty alike were so impressed with the Washington tableaux that they were repeated for the public on two occasions.

Another outstanding program of the year was "Lancelot and Elaine" from the Idylls of the King, given by members of the junior English classes. The parts of Lancelot and Elaine were played by Thespians. Particularly beautiful were the scenes of "Elaine with the Shield" and "Elaine on the Barge".

Two initiations have been held during the year. The National Thespian Troupe in our school is one of two national honorary societies in which every student covets membership.

Our costume department is growing so rapidly that in addition to the two wardrobes purchased last year we are adding another. This time we are having an 11 foot cupboard built in one of the dressing rooms. We rent our costumes for plays and dances and in this way are able to add many new ones each year.

We feel that this has been a most successful year for us. Our final activity of the year will be a dinner at Springside Inn, Owasco Lake.

Gladys Steenbergh, Director.

Troupe No. 122

Newport News High School Newport News, Va.

Troupe 122 of the National Thespians has assisted the drama classes of the Newport News High School in the presentation of the school's two three-act plays, "House Party" and "The Royal Family". In addition, their members have served as student directors for senior one-act plays, "Two Crooks and a Lady", "Good Medicine", "Jazz and Minuet", etc. They are assuming complete charge both in acting and production of the tournament play "On the Lot" to be presented at the district and state contests. They will also assist in the production of the music department, various assembly programs, etc. About thirty new members have been received into the organization this year and the already high standards for membership have been raised because of the large number of those qualifying. Only fourteen were admitted this spring, although twenty were eligible according to the previous rules. This increased strictness was made necessary because of the necessity for economy, as Troupe 122 pays all initiation fees and buys the pins for all new members.

Social meetings have taken place this year of the strictly business sessions with the Troupe meeting twice a month at the homes of the members. We have also had very enjoyable meetings at initiation time, and it seems that every year the ingenuity of the group in planning initiation stunts is taxed severely.

Our play, "On the Lot", won the district tournament at the College of William and Mary and was taken to the state tournament at the University of Virginia on May 13.

Dramatics in Newport News High School has, of course, the great advantage of being included in the course of study and carrying regular school credit. Three courses are given, and from among the students enrolled in the three sections of Drama I, the two sections of

Drama II, and the one section of Drama III, are taken the members of the staffs of our various plays. Only those who do outstanding work in production and acting are admitted to the Thespians. The selection of the new members arouses a great deal of enthusiasm and interest in the school and we feel that Troupe 122 is very firmly established.

Troupe No. 127

Salem High School Salem, N. J.

The "Cap and Bells" Dramatic Club of Salem High School has closed another successful season. The coming September will find a number of students eligible for the National Thespians.

This year the school holiday programs were given by the different class members of the club. The junior members presented in the setting and costumes of the period, "The Jewels of Queen Isabella", on Columbus Day. The sophomores delighted the audience with "Hold That Line, Jimmy", which shared honors with our football victory over our rival team in the county at Thanksgiving. Trimming the school and presenting the Christmas play has become a senior ritual. "Women-Folks" was the happy choice for the season. On Washington's birthday, the juniors scored in a delightful colonial comedy, "Crinoline and Candlelight", while the seniors danced the traditional minuet.

The one-act plays for the club social meetings were "Tea Lovers", "Cherry Special", and "Station YYYY". In addition, the club arranged for all assembly programs. Some of the plays were repeated for school benefits.

The club had two major projects. The first was the three-night performance of our annual school play. This year the choice was "Skidding". The second was the writing and direction for the entire school system an original pageant for the Bi-centennial celebration called "Making Dates With Washington". It was presented on an out-door stage to our May Queen and her court and brought high praise to our club.

In the ranks of "Cap and Bells" there is excellent material, which makes our prospects for another successful year very bright.

Jane C. Clough, President.

Troupe No. 128

Pontiac Township High School Pontiac, Illinois

Though we started late this year, we were determined to take the die out of depression. We did. What remained was "press on". That we did also. Believing that this has been one of our best years, we are anxious to tell you about what we have done.

Nine students were formally initiated into the 128th Troupe early in February of this year. All of the members have been very enthusiastic about our dramatic work and created a great deal of interest throughout the school by means of the one-act play tournament sponsored by our organization.

Four one-act plays coached by student directors, were given. The winning play, "The Valiant", coached and ably played by Glenn Middleton, one of our very talented Thespians, was accorded the honor of competing in a one-act play contest conducted by Illinois Wesleyan at Bloomington, Illinois, April 23rd. We are proud to boast of the fact that this play representing our Troupe, won first place in the contest. Just recently this same play was given again at our local theater where the play and its actors scored more success.

The two three-act plays, "The Tiger House", and "Broadway Jones", were given by the junior and senior classes respectively. Many students who took part in both plays were members of the National Thespian Society. These plays also provided means for some to become new members.

The Dramatic Class, under the direction of Miss Gladys Larsen, presented the three one-act plays, "Two Crooks and a Lady", "Grandma Pulls the Strings", and "In the Spring a Young Man's Fancy". Most of these people were inexperienced, but we are anxiously await-



TROUPE NO. 128
Pontiac Township High School, Pontiac, Mich.
Miss Lois M. Sack, Director

ing the time when many of them will become Thespians.

We felt highly honored this year to have Mr. Paul Yost, a citizen of Pontiac, who has studied extensively the technique of stage productions in New York and in Europe. Mr. Yost has given us some very valuable suggestions and has helped some of our members to develop excellent character portrayals.

Our season was concluded by a dinner for our active and alumni members; here some of us tried our ability at speech-making. The stage was set; the hero, the heroine, the villain and the comedian all had their say, not, however, without a final word from the director—otherwise known as the “slave driver”. Following the dinner, we attended the theater where “The Valiant” was being staged by members of our Troupe.

Many plans are being made to strengthen ourselves even more next year. We feel that our year has been quite a happy one, and we hope that all of you have had a successful year in 1932 and that 1933 will bring more laurels.

Troupe No. 136

Wichita High School North Wichita, Kansas

Troupe number 136 was organized in 1930 at Wichita High School North with 24 charter members. There are now 23 members, 20 members being initiated this year.

The dramatic season was opened with the three-act play, “A Man of Honor”. Later, the following one-act plays were presented, in which Thespians participated: “Mrs. Caulsons Daughter”, “The Burglar”, “The Teeth of the Gift Horse”, “They Had to See Paris”, and “Fingerbowls and Arominta”. The season closed with “That Ferguson Family”.

Of our entire membership, 17 are seniors and 6 juniors leaving 6 members attending school next fall.

A brief survey of the year's work in dramatics shows that as Thespians, we have a record of which we may be proud. Both director and Thespians feel that their efforts have proven profitable.

Our most outstanding Thespian this year is Howard McVay, a senior who has had two major roles in three-act productions.

Our officers for this year are president, Howard McVay; secretary, Martha Miner; treasurer, Thelma Hamilton.

We owe much of our success during the past year to the untiring efforts of Miss Evelyn Clark, the dramatics instructor. The club has been a success from the start and the prospects for the future are bright.

Martha Miner, Secretary.

Troupe No. 145

Red Bluff High School Red Bluff, Calif.

The Thespians of the Red Bluff High School have presented several plays this year.

The senior play in the fall, “Skidding”, was highly commended. In February, a group of student body plays, consisting of the four one-act plays, “Short Cut”, “Submerged”, “Crinoline and Candlelight” and “It Will Be All Right on the Night” were given. “Short Cut”

was also performed before the Drama Teachers' Association meeting in Chico.

There have been two initiations. After the ceremony of the spring initiation the group enjoyed a picnic on the river.

The audience was very enthused about the success of these presentations and the club consider themselves successful this year.

Troupe No. 146

Pekin Community High School Pekin, Illinois

Each year the dramatic department of Pekin High sponsors something new. Last year it was the three one-act plays and a double cast for the junior class play. This year the National Thespians presented “The Royal Family”, the play written by Edna Ferber and George Kaufman and prominent on Broadway and in the movies. Students from the entire school were eligible to try-out for the play, and for the first time in the dramatic history of Pekin Community High School the cast included members of all four classes. This was done to give more students an opportunity to participate in dramatic productions and to discover new talent among the underclassmen. Each member of the cast was also given an alternate or an understudy.

Ten one-act plays were prepared as projects of the dramatic classes during the year. They were presented before the class and several in chapel. The plays were directed and completely worked out as to stage, costumes, characters and lighting by the students.

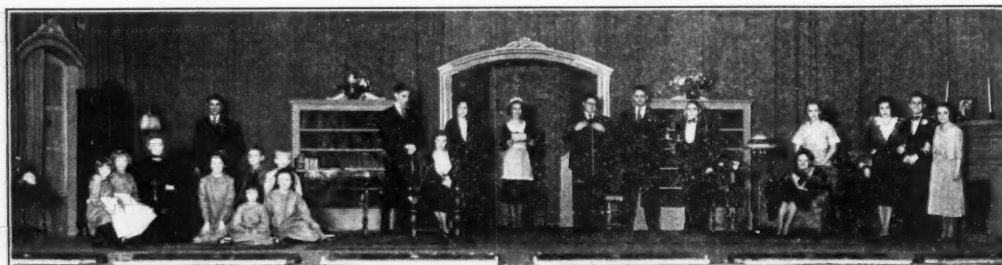
The dramatic clubs this year were divided into two divisions and a new experiment was tried, that of working out several one-act plays and giving them before the members of the two divisions. These plays were also done by the students with no other assistance. Some of the plays were given before various high school clubs, assemblies, church groups, Woman's club, Kiwanians, and several were exchanged with high schools of the surrounding cities.

“Write down the words, delightful, charming, sweet, beautiful and entertainng, and then draw a line and add them up, the answer will be “Daddy Long Legs”, the senior class play which was presented on January twenty-second. In producing “Daddy Long Legs” the stage managers attempted something different in that there were four acts, each with an entirely different setting.

Soon after the senior play, rehearsals began on the junior class play, “Skidding”, which was presented in March. This was received in an unusual fashion and the juniors did some very excellent acting.

For the first time, too, this year, the dramatic department entered the one-act play tournament held at the Knox College Theater in Galesburg, Illinois. Anyone who had National Thespian points was eligible to try-out for the play, “Mansions”. The tournament was held on April 23rd and “Mansions” received first place in the class B division in which it was entered.

Climaxing the year's work in dramatics, a commencement pageant, “The Spirit of Life” written by the director of dramatics, Miss Louise Falkin, was presented



"DADDY LONG LEGS"
Pekin Community High School, Pekin, Ill. (Troupe No. 146)
Miss E. Louise Falkin, Director

on June 9th. This pageant portrayed Graduate meeting the "Spirit of Life" and the "Spirit of Life" in a series of colorful episodes disclosing to Graduate how the worthwhile life is made up of the four attributes, Work, Love, Play, and Faith. The Thespians of Troupe 146 feel that this school year has been a most successful one.

LaVerne Bastian, Secretary.

Troupe No. 149

Paragould High School Paragould, Ark.

Troupe No. 149 was organized October 21, 1930. Fourteen new members were initiated this school year, making a total of 43 members.

A Junior High Dramatic Club, The Goblins, and a Senior High Little Theater, are training grounds for membership in Troupe No. 149.

All outstanding special features are accorded Thespians and naturally underclassmen strive for Thespian membership.

The regular initiation takes place in closed session. The special initiation, planned by director and executive committee, takes place at a special school assembly. All pledges being particularly garbed all morning of assembly program.

When possible, only Thespians are assigned parts in drama contests.

These special features mentioned seem to create a very great desire for Thespian membership.

Troupe 149 ranked first in the North East Arkansas drama contest presenting "The Indecurrent".

Two of Troupe 149 Thespians won first places in North East Arkansas district contests—Doris Lloyd in recitation and Byrl Byles in declamation.

Officers for 1932-33 are: President, Helen Johnson; vice president, Cathryn Harris; Secretary, Mary Jane Dover; treasurer, Mary Louise Craig.

Mary Jane Dover, Secretary
Marie Thost Pierce, Director

Troupe No. 150

Stadium High School Tacoma, Wash.

Perhaps the most important of the plays in which the Troupe had a part this year was the senior class play, "The Optimist", which included several of our

Thespians in each part of its double cast which was used very successfully.

Our Troupe sponsored 17 one-act plays in our regular meetings with sixty different members taking part. A few of these plays were: "Squaring It With the Boss", "Sardines", "Red Carnations", "A Nephew in the House", "The Will-O-the-Wisp", "You Know, I Know, Shake", "The Telegram", and "It Isn't Being Done". A matinee was put on early in the year with great success. Three plays were presented by the members of our workshop class, which makes our Thespian Society a reality, and the proceeds payed the fees of the sixteen Thespians who were initiated in February and May.

We owe a great deal to the efforts of our coach, Miss Alberta Frances Black who who has given a great deal of her time and effort to make our Troupe a success.

Betty Jones, Secretary.

Troupe No. 157

Liberty Memorial High School Lawrence, Kansas

This has been a delightfully busy year for our National Thespians. Three major plays and a number of one-act plays have been produced.

"The Ivory Door" was produced for the benefit of the Hi-Y and the G. R. But the junior play, "Fifty-Fifty", and the senior play, "A Lucky Break", were presented in true Thespian style.

The one-act plays that deserve mention are "Mr. Richey Changes His Mind", "Tuning In", "The Paper Wedding", "Not Quite Such a Goose", "Who's the Boss?", "Two of a Kind", "Pyramus and Thisbe", "The Blood-Stained Knife", "The Test", and "The Train to Mauro".

We held our initiation ceremony on a picturesque green spot before a massive stone fireplace on the top of Cameron's Bluff. The following members were initiated: Billoween Macoubrie, Jean Russell, Clara Lindquist, Leonice Wadhams, Virginia Hosford, Maxine Miller, Margaret Kelsall, Ireta Mae Fetters, John Chandler, George Hamilton, Ralph Hawley, Harold Gregg, Samuel Ericson, and Arnold Gilbert.

The officers for this year have been:

President	Jean Russell
Secretary	Clara Lindquist
Treasurer	George Hamilton
	Lina M. Shippy, Director.

Troupe No. 159**Harlan High School
Harlan, Iowa**

The junior class presented "Daddy Long Legs" November 12 and 13, the roles of Judy, Jervis, Jimmie and Miss Pritchard, being double cast. From this production Gene Petty, Norton Peterson, Genevieve Crouch and Elkanor Hanick became eligible for membership in the National Thespians and were initiated.

On January 14 the Thespians produced "The Wisdom Tooth", the cast being chosen from the whole high school with the Thespians doing all production work. As the result of this performance, Norene Davis, Alice Jensen, Valborg Morcussen, Jack Brodersen, and Charles Yates were initiated into Troupe 159.

The senior class play was "Cock Robin", produced May 10, with all except two senior Thespians as members of the cast.

May Virden, Director.

Troupe No. 160**East High School
Sioux City, Ia.**

To be a member of our Troupe of Thespians, one must be a member of the Masque Club and fulfill strict dramatic qualifications. Sixteen students have been Thespian members. This year our Masque Club presented a mystery play "The Valley of Ghosts". Last year our members presented "The Valiant", "Midnight Fantasy", "End of the Rainbow", and "Grandma Pulls the Strings". We have had a very successful year and have made much progress.

Carol Atkinson, Secretary.

Troupe No. 163**Harbor High School
Ashtabula, Ohio**

Troupe 163 of the National Thespian Society, installed by the faculty advisor, Miss Jeana Ewing, Dec. 12, 1931, has done much to be proud of this last year of 1932.

Ye Merrie Players presented the following plays this year: On December 4, three one-act plays were presented to the public, "Thursday Evening", "The Moving Finger", and "Three Pills in a Bottle" which entered a contest at Cleveland Shaker Heights School. Although we didn't place in the contest, we were not discouraged and hope to win next time.

At our meetings during the year the following plays were presented by pupils who were directed by a more experienced pupil: "The Kelley Kid" and "Tyhuia Jussi" (a Finnish play meaning "Dumb Tom". It was given in Finnish by Finnish pupils), and "Eliga".

Two three-act plays were presented, one by the junior class on January 28, "The Call of the Banshee", and one by the senior class on May 13, "Cappy Ricks".

All the Dramatic Club members are very interested in the National Thespian Society and work hard to become members. It has enthused many a person who seemed rather uninterested in his work and made him sit up and work harder. We of the National Thespian Society No. 163 are exceedingly proud to be members.

Bernice C. Mello, Secy. and Treas.

Troupe No. 164**Dunbar High School
Dunbar, Nebr.**

Troupe No. 164 of the National Thespians regret that they haven't made much progress in dramatics during the current year. However, they have partaken in the presentation of "A Peach of a Family", a comedy in three acts; "The Man Higher Up", a three-act farce, and "A Shot in the Dark", a one-act mystery frappe.

The present officers will retain their position until the initiatory ceremony next year.

Miss Marie A. Neuhalfen, Secretary.

Troupe No. 165**Eveleth Senior High School
Eveleth, Minn.**

In the first semester of the school year 1930-31, Troupe No. 165 of the National Thespian Society was organized with a charter membership of eight members. There are now twenty-five active members and two alumnae. The Troupe began the school year 1931-32 with nine members, admitted eleven to the society on November 15 and five additional members on December 14. On December 17 the members of the Troupe and their guests enjoyed a Christmas dance, and on May 20 a spring dance. The group has studied stage make-up, costumes, and presented individual vaudeville sketches at its various meetings.

The dramatic season was opened with the one-act play "Box and Cox". This was followed by "Good Medicine", "Overtones", "Exile", "Dwellers in the Darkness", "Fore", "Quits", and "God Winks", all directed by student directors of the Junior College Play Production Group (organized in 1931) under the supervision of dramatic coach E. W. Blank. During the second semester, a stage technique class was organized in the Junior College. This group directed the following one-act plays as part of their regular class work: "The Trap", "Fourteen", "The Siege", "Mr. Sampson", "The New Poor", "Thank You, Doctor", "The Valiant", "The Rehearsal", "The Pot Boiler", and "The Red Owl".

On March eighth the National Thespians presented "Zaragueta" a two-act comedy. The play was directed by Eleanore Lippman, a member of the Troupe and also of the Stage Technique class. The entire cast and staff was composed of National Thespians.

On May 17, a one-act play contest was sponsored by the Troupe. The three college students who had received the highest rating on their plays listed above, each directed a play for the contest. The plays presented were: "The Rector", "A Marriage Proposal", and "Rosalie". Three local teachers acted as judges. This was the second annual contest of this kind that the Troupe has sponsored. The play awarded first place was "Rosalie". As a reward the Troupe presented the winning cast with a prize of six dollars. The cast expended this money in a dinner for the three casts and their directors.

The senior class play, "Minick", was the highlight of the season. It was presented twice. In addition to "Minick", two other three-act plays, "Just Suppose" and "Wedding Bells", were each presented twice.

On the whole the Troupe considers the past year a profitable one in dramatics. There has been a total of twenty-five plays presented, twenty-one of which were one-act plays, one two-act play, and three three-act plays. It is also interesting to note that six out of thirteen people taking part in the one-act play contest were National Thespians; and also, out of a cast of fourteen in the senior class play, ten were Thespians. The entire season passed without any prompts during the Friday assemblies or public performances. Seventy-five people have taken part in high school dramatics this year.

Bernice Goldberg, Secretary
E. W. Blank, Director

Troupe No. 166

Morristown High School

Morristown, N. J.

The season of 1931-32 was an especially successful one for Troupe No. 166, considering its late start.

During the year five one-act plays were given. Three of them, "The Noble Lord", "The Valiant", and "A Wedding", in an evening performance on May 24. "The Trysting Place" was presented to the school assembly and "Changing Places" was presented at the final meeting of the Parent-Teachers Association.

The senior play, although not directly under the guidance of the Dramatic Club, had a cast consisting almost entirely of Dramatic Club members.

The group of members studying make-up assisted in the make-up for "The Mikado", presented by the musical organizations of the high school and the George Washington Pageant presented by the members of the faculty and students.

Financially, the season was fairly successful, a good profit being shown at the end of the year's activities.

G. Wells McMurray, President.

Troupe No. 167

Abingdon High School

Abingdon, Ill.

The 167th Troupe of the National Thespians was organized in Abingdon High School January 16, 1931. The charter members are Anna Belle Bird, Wayne Churchill, Lois Lomax, Martha Weir, Mary Cathryne Bulkeley, Mildred Eldridge, Isabel Simpkins, Josephine Campbell, Dorcas Famulener, and Helen Oldfather. At the first initiation these members were added: Grace Danielson, Gwendolyn Dahler, Glada Holmes, Thomas Bennett, Leo Knisley, and Harold Lomax.

In May, 1931, a second initiation was held when the eligible juniors and one of the alumnus were taken into the club. They were Howard Lomax, Lyle Walters, John LeMarr, Mascha Crumbaker, Elmer Meadows, and Dorothy Mae Erennart. Before school was out we held an election of officers for the coming school year choosing John LeMarr as president and Mascha Crumbaker, secretary-treasurer.

This year the Thespians have been very active in high school dramatics. The senior class play, "The Things That Count", was presented in December with a cast of 16, of which 8 are Thespians. In December also

we initiated into the club 6 new members: Wilbur Nott, Velma Raines, Sara Jane Davis, Anta Stephens, Janice Rork, and Charlotte Downs.

On February 22 the Thespians gave two one-act plays, "A Dish of China Tea," and "Crinoline and Candlelight", for the benefit of the Parent-Teachers Association.

In March the junior class play, "The Belle of Philadelphia Town", was presented at the Bijou with five Thespians in a cast of 12. Our last initiation was held just after school was dismissed and we admitted nine new members into the organization. They were Irene Bulkeley, Mary Helen Dodson, Brooks Hall, Jane Hunt, Lucille Caulkins, Wayne Baker, Dale Howard, Ione Bowton, and Louise Bowton. We also had election of officers for next year at this meeting. Brooks Hall was elected president, and Irene Bulkeley, secretary-treasurer.

Mascha Crumbaker, Secretary.

Troupe No. 168

Logan Senior High School

Logan, W. Va.

Troupe No. 168 of the National Thespians has been very active during the school year of 1931-32. We have presented for the benefit of the school several one-act plays.

Our club project for the school year was sponsoring a play contest among the three classes, which differed from the contest of last year. Instead of the classes offering three-act plays, each class presented three one-act plays at intervals of about four weeks. The plays were student directed, managed, and staged, the class sponsors serving as advisors to whom the student directors could go for any needed aid. No teacher sponsored more than one play. Each class had three directors, while no student could take part in more than one play. Thus many students participated in the contest, several of whom were able to complete Thespian requirements. Competent outside persons judged the plays each night of the contest, giving first place fifty points, second, thirty, and third, twenty points. As a result, the trophy was awarded to the junior class, who tallied one hundred twenty points. Publicity was managed by the Thespian, and senior and junior directors were student Thespians.

The annual spring production by the Thespians was Cosmo Hamilton's "The New Poor".

Fifteen new members were added as a result of the play contest and the spring production.

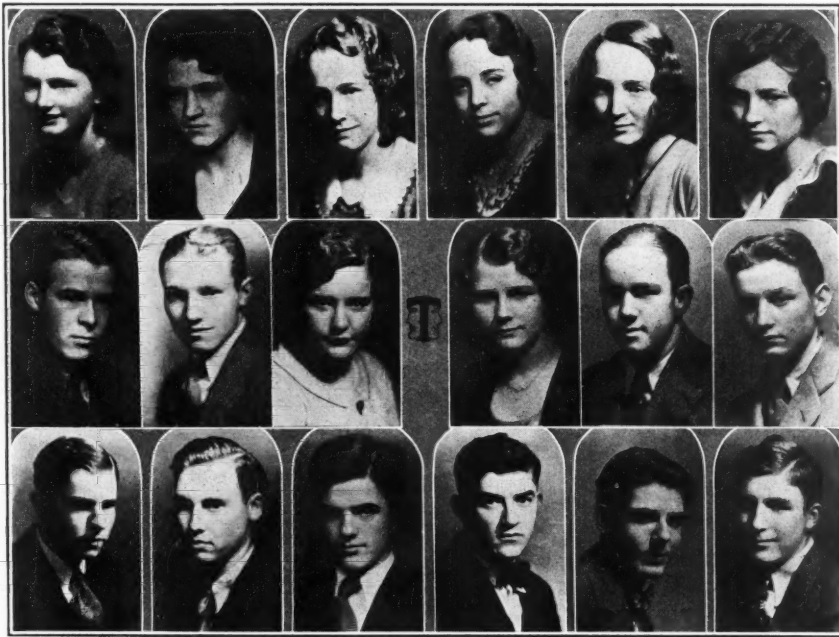
Miss Gladys Beddow, Sponsor
Virginia Burdette, Secretary.

Troupe No. 169

Bluffton-Richland High School

Bluffton, Ohio

Troupe No. 169 of the Bluffton-Richland High School has just passed through a very successful year. There has been a constant expression of satisfaction with our organization on the part of the students and teachers. Most of the interest was due to our determination to have better dramatic productions in our school and foster to some extent all class plays.



TROUPE No. 169
Bluffton-Richland High School, Bluffton, Ohio
Mr. Paul F. Stauffer, Director

During the past year the Troupe was under the able leadership of Jean Diller. As president, she assumed all duties in a very respectable manner and contributed splendidly in all drama work. Helen Wells was secretary-treasurer and Martha Niswander served as program chairman. As the beginning of the term there were nine members. As this report is being submitted, twenty students and two faculty members are enrolled.

Due to the fact that we have too many full-length plays in our school and community, we decided to limit our work to one-act productions. At Christmas time "Why the Chimes Rang" was given during the chapel period. We considered this a very splendid play for the occasion. Later in the term the Troupe also furnished one-act material for different community functions and entertained the student body with short productions like "A Case of Suspension", "The Truth for a Day", "Dispatches of Washington", and others. Several of these were under the direction of students and student-teachers. The experience proved to be a valuable one.

Officers elected for the year 1932-33 are, president, Pauline Balmer; secretary-treasurer, Glenn Griffith; program chairman, Vera Burkholder.

Glenn Griffith, Sec'y-Treas.

Troupe No. 172

Arkadelphia High School Arkadelphia, Ark.

The 1932 season has been the most successful in the history of the Arkadelphia High School Dramatic Club, which has been in existence for more than fifteen years.

Not only has the club improved affairs within itself, but it has taken an active part in state dramatics and has raised the standard of high school dramatics in the state of Arkansas.

The Arkadelphia Dramatic Club made as its objective at the first of the season to buy and install stage fixtures for the auditorium of the new high school building of this city. After devoting most of the year to the raising of this money, the club finally accomplished this objective, and under their leadership the new stage fixtures and a beautiful velvet drape curtain were installed.

The method by which this money was raised was through the presentation of dramatic entertainments for the public, and also from money received as club dues, etc. The dramatic entertainments consisted of two three-act plays and a Stunt Night.

Early in the season the first of the three-act plays was given. This play, "The Patsy", was a comedy and its cast was made up of the 1932 National Thespians. The play was given before a large audience and was lauded as one of the best ever given in this city where there are also located two college dramatic clubs and a Little Theater.

The Dramatic Club next presented a "Stunt Night" which consisted of stunts and vaudeville acts which were presented by various civic organizations. The winning stunt was presented with a cash prize, and so intense was the competition for this prize that the "Stunt Night" drew a large crowd.

The last entertainment presented by the club was a three-act play, which completed the fund for the stage fixtures and which also was the most lucrative of all

the entertainments. The Dramatic Club presented the high school faculty in an old melodrama of the '80's. The name of the play was "The Dead Sister's Secret, or Gold in the Hills". Upon the completion of the fund, the club turned the money over to the school treasury and conferred, through its sponsors, with the school officials in the selecting and installing of the new fixtures.

Besides the objective of raising money for stage fixtures, the Dramatic Club also held the purpose in view to raise the standard of high school dramatics. Its first move toward this goal was to apply for membership in the Arkansas Little Theater Association, and they were accorded the honor of being the first high school group to be elected into this association. Next, they drew up a schedule of programs to be presented before the club during the year that would serve to better and raise their own standards in dramatics. People outside the club were called in to give demonstrations before the club as a whole, and those who had had wider experience in dramatics or had seen unusual dramatic performances were asked to participate in the programs presented before the club.

Finally, the club took part in the Arkansas Little Theater Tournament, presenting a one-act play, "The Sponge", and not only winning first place for the high school division of this contest, but also having both the best boy and the best girl actor selected from this cast. They received a beautiful trophy which they presented to the high school.

As a climax for its work, the outstanding members of the club were chosen for the National Thespian group, and twenty members were thus selected. A banquet was held during commencement week for the old and new members of the National Thespians, which had a large attendance, and here the officers for the next year were elected. All business for the 1932 current dramatic season was concluded at this meeting.

Troupe No. 173

Central High School Bellevue, Ohio

Troupe No. 173 has closed a year of adventure into some new phases of dramatic work. Club members were given opportunities to choose and direct plays. It was a thrilling and profitable bit of experience in play work and gained from an angle hitherto unused in this school. It gave those particularly adept ones a much broader scope for the use of their imaginations. Constructive criticism by other club members, properly directed by the instructor, helped to give each and every member a better insight into the art of acting.

Of course there are always individuals who are much better fitted to that phase of the stage that deals with costuming, make-up, lighting, scenery building, stage set-ups, and program designing. So by fitting each member into his own particular niche we were able to present programs that were exceedingly well balanced. Not only would the presentation itself be well done, but the scenic effects, lights, and sets would be such as to attract much favorable comment. One very striking example of this set-up was the modernistic office of Dr. Sumner in the presentation called "The Boomerang", a three-act comedy. The set, as well as the ultra-modern furniture was made by members of the club.

Our club members were extremely well pleased with the entire year's work and they felt that they derived a better knowledge of all phases of play presentation than they could have attained had their efforts been more closely restricted.

Initiation was held June 2 for the following: Dorothy Diehr, Joanne Lewis, Margaret Drane, Verie Landefelt, Philip Wolf, William Byers, Hederick Hathaway, Leonard Tone, Edward Weber, Ralph Tippet.

Louise Bell, Director.



Cast for "THE SPONGE". Winning One-Act Play
Troupe No. 172. Arkadelphia High School, Arkadelphia, Ark.
Mrs. R. B. Thomas, Director



TROUPE No. 176
Butte High School, Butte, Montana
Miss Lillian Kerrigan, Director

Troupe No. 174

Miami High School Miami, Ariz.

Troupe No. 174 was organized early in May, 1931, with twelve charter members. At the end of the year six more were initiated. Eight members who were juniors returned to school in September, 1931, and started the Thespian activities with considerable interest.

Regular monthly meetings were held during the year, featuring an occasional play or report concerning dramatic work. The Troupe sponsor, Miss Clara Burghart, reported concerning the legitimate drama she had seen in New York during the summer. A play direction committee was selected to choose, cast and direct one-act plays for assembly presentation. By this means talented schoolmates were given an opportunity to earn the dramatic credit necessary for Thespian membership.

Thespians have been outstanding in all school plays and speech activities. All four of the local winners in the speech contest were Thespians, two of whom placed second in the district contest. Four of the five players who presented "The Florist Shop" in our district play contest and placed second, were Thespians.

The fact that only two of the present membership will be in Miami High School next fall is not especially discouraging, for several students have all or part of the dramatic credit and have worked hard to acquire the scholastic standing demanded. It is hoped that an early initiation may be held and that Troupe 174 will do credit to the organization again.

Troupe No. 176

Butte High School Butte, Mont.

At the beginning of the school year, very few members were left in our Troupe due to graduation. As the year progressed, new members were added until the membership at the end of the year was about twenty pupils.

In Butte High School, which has a membership of over seventeen hundred and fifty students, we have three dramatic clubs: The Red Dominoe, whose membership includes freshmen, sophomores, and juniors; the Senior Dramatic Club which includes seniors only; the Thespians who have completed the requirements for membership from both clubs.

At the end of the school year in all of the three clubs we had a total membership of over ninety students. In all clubs a total of thirteen plays were presented besides numerous skits and little sketches.

An original one-act play was chosen for Little Theater. It placed fourth in the state competition. "How's Your Health?", by Tarkington and Wilson, was presented as our senior play by the Senior Dramatic Club.

The Thespians in Butte High School do not take an active part in the presentation of plays, but as experienced actors, help and coach the more inexperienced members of the other clubs. Usually a little talk is given on various subjects of stage lighting, costumes, decorating, and make-up. We find these are very useful when they come from a member instead of a book.

Under the direction and with the help of our most capable director, Miss Lillian Kerrigan, the two clubs and especially the Thespians have enjoyed an interesting and successful year.

Albert McArthur, President.

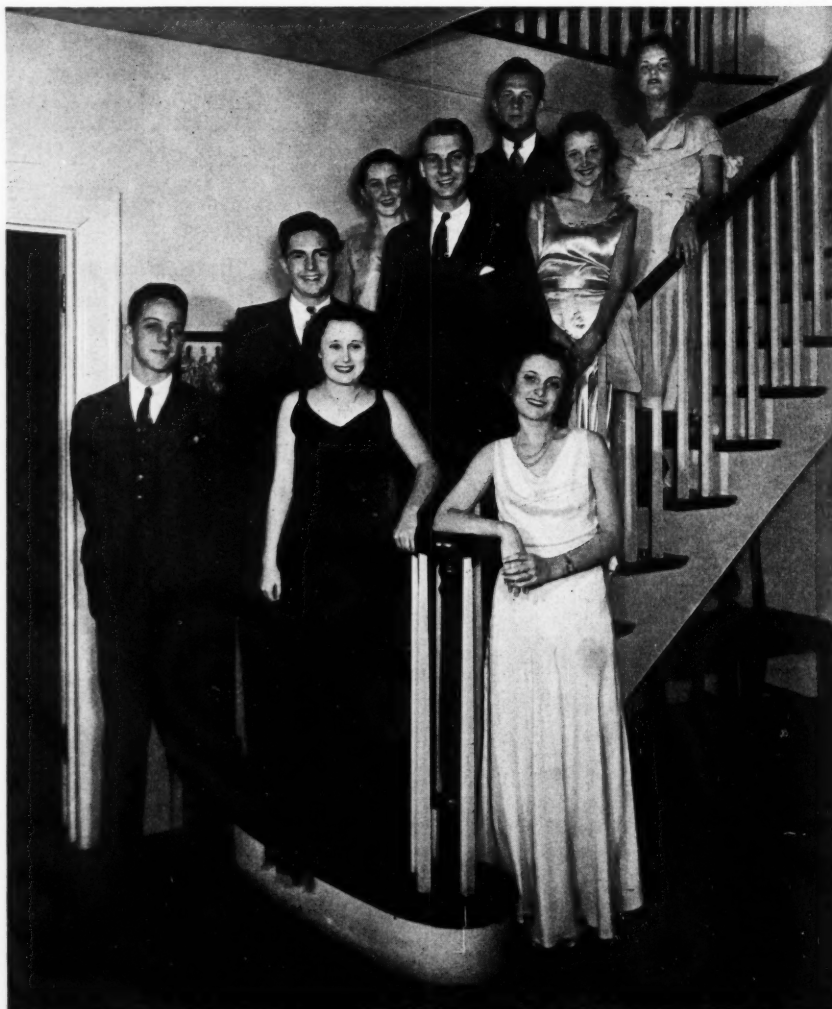
Troupe No. 177**Orlando Senior High School
Orlando, Fla.**

Orlando Troupe No. 177, of the National Thespians, has made an enviable record in dramatics this year and hope they may be able to maintain the high standard set this past season. The year opened with the National Thespians sponsoring the Seminole Players' gangster party in which twenty new members were taken for a ride. A clever initiation was given at the sign of the "Broken Nose" a tough joint. Hot hamburgers and cold bottles of punch with mysterious cross signs on the outside, were served to a famished crowd of dramatic racketeers.

"Robin Hood, Inc.", a musical comedy of "ye olde days", was the opening dramatic attraction of this year. This was put on in conjunction with the musical department and was a splendid artistic success.

The contest play was one of the feature events of the year. The Orlando Troupe entered "The Sprightly Widow Bartlett" in commemoration of the George Washington Bicentennial. We won three district contests and went to Gainesville to compete in the state finals. After winning first place in the preliminaries, we competed for final honors receiving second place in the state one-act play finals, which are under the supervision of the University of Florida.

Coming home we took a general survey of our financial report and found we were twenty-five dollars in debt. So the idea of a Seminole Rodeo was formed. An evening's entertainment in complete cowboy regalia, a



TROUPE No. 177
Orlando Senior High School, Orlando, Florida
Miss Mildred E. Murphy, Director

break down orchestra, western vaudeville, with moonlight and cactus setting. Two one-act plays, "Grandma Pulls the Strings", and "Town Hall Tonight" were novel features of the evening. A large crowd responded to a week's clever advertising campaign and the "Rodeo" went down in the annals of O. H. S. history as the biggest financial success of the year.

The junior class play, "Take My Advice", by Elliott Lester, proved to be one of the most hilarious comedies we have given in some time. The whole cast was voted on to be taken in as Thespians next year.

Thespians members were then given a delightful dinner party in the beautiful colonial home of the president, Burwell Howard. A radio party at the Waterwitch Country Club was the closing social event of the season, in which a variety of Amos and Andys, the Boswell Sisters, and innumerable other radio stars gave clever imitations in a novel arranged radio hook-up. The new Thespian president, Lucy Ferran, was introduced and great plans were launched for next year. The senior class play "Skinner's Dress Suit", climaxed the year's dramatic output, playing for two nights running to capacity houses.

Maxine Mizelle, Secretary

Troupe No. 179

West High School Ashtabula, O.

Our Troupe has progressed to a great extent this year under our director, Miss Mary D. Mather. We have presented many one-act plays in this and in surrounding towns for different organizations.

To celebrate Shakespeare's birthday we had a prominent minister in this town give an interesting talk on Shakespeare's life and characteristics.

On January 25th, seven members were added, having completed the requirements. Officers were elected this term with Paul Grossart as president; Margaret Stoll, vice president; Betty Talbott, secretary, and Francis Olex, treasurer.

This summer a selected number expect to broadcast a program over the radio. We also have entered a contest sponsored by The Little Theater Group at Bay Village, Ohio.

We are now working on a comedy which we shall give early in July. This is a three-act play, "Shirt Sleeves".

Our meetings are made interesting by discussions and reviewing of popular plays by the members.

Betty Talcott, Secretary.

Troupe No. 181

Roosevelt-Wilson High School Clarksburg, W. Va.

For one year two members only made up our Troupe. May 26, 1932, we held initiation and eleven new members entered to make their mark as Thespians. The old members were Eugene Fansler and Woodrow Martin. Those who came in on May 26, were Edythe Goldsmith, Frances Collette, Jane Long, Ruth Herron, Elizabeth Freshour, Dorothea Berteaux, Howard Wamsley, Philip True, Victor Morgan, William Dent, and Edmond Tucker.

Great accomplishments have been ours considering the size of our Troupe. Our director, Mrs. Beck Hall, has coached several plays but this year seemed to reach greater heights in the plays, "Chintz Cottage" and "Who Wouldn't Be Crazy". Three one-act plays, "Cuckoo's Nest", "Crowning Glory", and "Jimmy" were presented in co-curricular period. "Hurricane Hal", a comedy of college life, was given as a class play.

We entered in the state contest of one-act plays presented for Thespians, with the play, "Bread". Those taking part were Ruth Herron, Herbert White, Jane Long, Woodrow Martin, Frances Collette, and Dorothea Berteaux. We were fortunate enough to have one of our Thespians, Jane Long, chosen for the all-state cast. She portrayed the part of Martha.

In the play, "Who Wouldn't Be Crazy", an airplane effect was needed. Eugene Fansler, our capable stage manager, looked around and finally came forth with two electric fans and a piece of cardboard. The effect was so satisfactory that many people craned their necks in an attempt to see the plane circling overhead. For the play "Chintz Cottage", a huge spotlight was used to suggest the moon shining through the open window.

Since the honest-to-goodness organization of Thespians, our school is sitting up and taking notice. The interest is increasing and everyone is looking forward to a great year in '33. Along with our hopes for our own success, we wish you loads of luck, High School Thespians.

Dorothea Berteaux, Secretary.

Troupe No. 183

Reitz High School Evansville, Ind.

Our dream for the year, the production of "She Stoops to Conquer", was not realized due to the depression. The community could not support so many entertainments. We shall try again next year. Our stage craft work was unusually successful this year. This work was done by our class in dramatics and Albert Hausmann, president of "The Strut and Fret" players and a National Thespian. I want to compliment Albert, especially on his untiring effort and fine work and we shall miss him next year. However, we are very happy over our season. We were able to put on the following one-act plays: Dec. 23, "The Christmas Carol", by Dickens; Feb. 5, "The Dear Departed", as matinee to finance our entry in the tri-state one-act play contest; Feb. 27, "Highness", one-act play contest, rated second in contest; May 5, "The Playgoers", by A. W. Pinero.

Laura Sanders, Director of Dramatics.

Troupe No. 185

Austin High School Chicago, Ill.

Though our Little Theater boasts some 160 pupils only 24 have been declared eligible to the National Thespians. Since eligibility is based on service, loyalty, and ability, some thirty will have fulfilled the requirements by next December.

The production of Louis Parker's "Disraeli" was the major project of the play production groups the first



TROUPE NO. 185
Austin High School, Chicago, Ill.
Miss Madeleine Glynn, Director

semester of the school year 1931-32. This embraced the training of a student clerical staff of forty, along with two separate casts, each of which consisted of fifty pupils. This production raised the standard of platform work in the group, in the school, and in the community. The minor projects consisted of the study of the oriental theater and the production of two Chinese plays; bi-monthly meetings of the group at which time the programs supplemented the regular classroom work; broadcasts over WCFL; and appearance on assembly programs.

During the second semester, the origin and the development of the drama from the Greek through the Shakespearean was the project that was sold to the play production groups. This was terminated by the speech tournament with some thirty Shakespearean scenes as the vehicle of expression. Other projects were: Cooperation with the Washington Bi-Centennial committee in the production of the original Washington Pageant; cooperation with the Austin Parent-Teachers' Association in an evening program; cooperation with local clean-up committee in the staging of four assemblies; and appearance on various assembly program. The group programs included addresses by Mr. Clayton Hamilton of New York City, and Miss Murray of the Commonwealth Edison Co. A demonstration at the Chicago Lighting Institute, semi-finals and finals of speech tournament and a scene from *Antigone*, supported by a chorus of twenty-four.

Audrey Gloppe	President
Thomas McComb	Vice President
Jack Wier	Secretary
Jeannette Barrett	Treasurer

Miss Madeleine Glynn is our director.
Jack Wier, Secretary.

Troupe No. 186

Ames Senior High School Ames, Iowa

The Dramatic Club of Ames High is one of the school's most active organizations. In September the National Thespian Troupe was installed. It is arranged so that membership is competitive, being determined by a carefully worked out point system which recognizes, in addition to acting, work as student coach, production staff member, or service as officer of Dramatic Club. About ten of the eighty members of the club are chosen into the National Thespians each semester.

During the year, two three-act plays were very successfully presented, "The Radio Mystery", an exciting mystery play, and "Children of the Moon", a charming and fantastic story of moon-madness. A large number of one-act plays were produced in the club, several of which were again presented before organizations in the city that requested them. "Six Who Pass While the Lentils Boil" was broadcast over WOI, the Iowa State College station. For the junior class play, "It Won't Be Long Now" was used, and the seniors gave "So This Is London", using a double cast. All one-act plays are under student coaching, and the grease make-up for absolutely every play, as well as the other production staff work, is done exclusively by students.

The one enterprize belonging exclusively to Troupe 186 was the production of the marionette play, "Doctor Faust". Aided by a local marionette troupe, the Thespians learned to make, dress, and manipulate the stringed marionettes. This offered a diversion for the puppeteers, in addition to being very well received by the school.

The tournament play for this year, Eugene O'Neill's one-act sea drama, "Where the Cross is Made", proved very profitable. In the Little Theatre tournament at the University of Iowa, it won second place, and at the Drake University State Play Production Contest it won first prize, which included fifty dollars in cash. This is the second successive year that Ames High has placed first in the class A division of this contest.

From its fifteen charter members, Troupe No. 186 has grown in its one year of existence to a membership of thirty-three, of which twelve will be active members in school during 1932-3. The graduating members who attend Iowa State College, which is in Ames, retain their interest in the Troupe and their participation in its activities.

Gwendolyn Fuller, Secretary.

Troupe No. 187

South Brownsville High School South Brownsville, Pa.

From October 24 until January 9, of this school year it seemed that the efforts of the four charter members of the newly installed Thespian Troupe were in vain. Financial conditions in the district kept many eligible persons from becoming members. At last it was decided to permit those who wanted to join to pay their membership fee of \$1.50 on the installment plan. These persons were permitted to attend the meetings of the club and considered as probationary members until the total

fee was paid, when they were then installed at a special meeting. During January the Women's Club, being interested in our efforts, invited the Troupe to attend their meeting in order to hear Mrs. Reed of the West Virginia University, lecture on "The Value of Dramatics in Our Schools" and review "Mourning Becomes Electra". From that time on the interest in the new club has increased rapidly.

Several theater parties were held as well as covered dish suppers which were concluded with the regular business meetings. During the March meeting the club members decided to buy sport blazers with the Thespian emblem on the back. To help finance this, the play "The Wild Oats Boy", was given. Fifteen members received jackets during May. These aroused a great deal of envy and interest about the school and the club took in five more members which brought the total membership for the year to twenty.

So much interest and enjoyment has been aroused in the club that it decided to meet oftener during the summer vacation period in order to create a spirit of good fellowship, keep up the interests of the club and be prepared to make a better dramatic season for South High in the coming school year. During the past year the Thespians have helped in the production of the grade school operetta, "Sunny of Sunnyside", as well as the production and make-up of the Dramatic Club plays, and the development of the Little Players Club for the junior high students.

Jean Donahey, Troupe Director.

Troupe No. 191

Webster Groves High School Webster Groves, Mo.

Troupe No. 191 now has thirty-one active members.

During the 1931-32 season the dramatic department of Webster High School played ten performances of four long plays which included four presentations of "The Enemy", three of "The Brat", two of "The Queen's Husband", and one of "The Whole Town's Talking".

Forty performances of twenty-three one-act plays were staged for student assemblies, student matinees, Parent-Teacher Associations, and contests. The one-act plays presented were, "The Decision at Dawn", "Hunt the Tiger", "Back Home", "The Valiant", "The Other Side", "Highness", "The Woman Who Understood Men",

"The Eligible Mr. Bangs", "The Traveling Man", "The Third Angle", "The Eve in Evelyn", "The Bad Penny", "Babbitt's Boy", "The Message From Khufu", "The Real Gloria", "Confessional", "The Brink of Silence", "Sham", "Two Crooks and a Lady", "Juliet and Romeo", "The Trysting Place", "The Ghost Story", and "Yashmak".

Members of the National Thespians won first place with "Highness" in the Little Theater contest conducted by the St. Louis Dramatic League, and third place in the high school division of the contest with "The Other Side".

The most gratifying work this season has been in the work of the production crews who have designed and constructed the stage pictures or sets, thus making dramatics a value not alone from the acting side, but most powerful as an educative force—a cooperative project in every phase of the play producing art.

Channing Pollock's "The Enemy" contributed most to the community thought. The first two performances were so well received that the Webster Groves Peace Council sponsored a third performance, and the St. Louis Council of Organizations Promoting Peace, a fourth performance. Many other requests from Y.W.C.A., Y.M.C.A., and church groups had to be denied.

Webster Groves High School has four production classes in dramatics, three beginning classes, and one advanced class. The department is under the direction of Eugene R. Wood.

Troupe No. 192

Senior High School Keokuk, Iowa

The Keokuk No. 192 Troupe of National Thespians has set a high standard this year, their first. With the aid of the Dramatic Club, four successful plays have been presented. "The Lucky Break", a farce comedy; "The Table Set for Himself", a Christmas play; "The Call of the Banshee", a thrilling mystery, and Channing Pollock's "The Enemy" was given by an all-star Thespian cast. The Keokuk Thespians were the leading characters in the Washington Bi-Centennial Pageant and were winners of first prize money for presenting the most artistic sketch in competition with other school organizations.

Three initiations were held as members of the Dramatic Club fulfilled their requirements to become Thespians. Our total membership for 1932 consists of 19, who have demonstrated their skill in dramatic art.

Refa Conard



TROUPE NO. 191
Webster High School, Webster Groves, Mo.
Mr. Eugene Wood, Director



TROUPE NO. 198
Grove High School, Paris, Tenn.
Mrs. Clem Krider, Director

Troupe No. 193

Simsbury High School Simsbury, Conn.

Troupe No. 193 is serving as a graduate organization in our dramatic department. An apprenticeship in the local dramatic club known as Sigma Delta Alpha, is essential before becoming a member of the National Thespians. As a result, competition for membership is very keen, and those who are finally admitted realize the value of their achievement. Through the efforts of the Thespians, a complete set of dimmers has been installed. Reflectors, spot lights and other stage accessories have been constructed by the Troupe, as well as a complete set of scenery for the production of "The Whole Town's Talking". This production was scouted by several dramatic clubs in adjoining towns who later put it on for themselves. On one occasion an entire cast with directors motored by bus for fifty miles to observe our Thespians in action. The usual number of one-act plays, skits, assembly programs and operettas were given and well represented by Thespian talent in school and community activity. At elections recently held ten new pledges were admitted. The officers for the ensuing year are:

Carolyn Starr	President
Edmund Holcomb	Vice President
Arlene Andrus	Secretary
Leah Bertini	Treasurer
Henry James	Director

Troupe No. 195

Chouteau County High School Fort Benton, Montana

Our big project this year was the Little Theatre tournament which was sponsored by the Thespians. A double cast of twenty-five people took part in four one-act plays which were given two nights with a different cast each night. From all the players a fine cast of

players was selected to act in the winning play which represented the school in the state contest. The plays presented were "Mansions", "The End of the Dance", "Rosalie", and "Sparkin'", the winning play. In our school the best actors and actresses are selected from try-outs and then the plays picked to suit the players. We found that the results were very good. Next year, we plan on doing many things that haven't been possible this year. We all feel that The Thespian National Dramatic Society, which we organized in our school only this year, has been a valuable addition to our dramatic department in developing and centralizing abilities and interests in dramatics.

Alice McCollum, Director.

Troupe No. 198

Grove High School Paris, Tenn.

On December 15, 1931, a troupe of the National Thespians was organized in Grove High School. We have a local club with sixty members. From this number, six were eligible to become charter members of Troupe No. 198 of the National Thespians. The number has increased to fifteen.

At the bi-weekly meetings of the club, we enjoyed interesting discussions of current plays. Part of the time we employed in the study of make-up.

During the year the club presented: "Fingerbowl and Araminta", "Dust of the Road", "The Christmas Party", "The Mouse-Trap", "The Pot Boiler", and "Betty Behave".

We feel that our beginning as National Thespians has been of benefit to us and to the entire student group at Grove High. Interest in dramatics at our school has increased materially. We look forward to an even more successful year of 1932-33.

Elaine Turner, Secretary.

Troupe No. 201**Great Neck High School
Great Neck, N. Y.**

Although Great Neck joined the Thespians late in the year, every charter member has been busy this year. In "Captain Applejack", "Seven Chances", and "Adam and Eva", over three big plays this year were included our first five Thespians. Claire Heimrod did "Anna Valeska" in "Captain Applejack", "Cerre" in "Seven Chances", and "Julie" in "Adam and Eva". Lydia Mange was "Aunt Agatha" in "Captain Applejack" and "Eva" in "Adam and Eva". George Brandt took "Borolski" in "Captain Applejack". Albert Bower was the lead of "Seven Chances", and "Dr. Delameter" in "Adam and Eva". John Dumbrille, our president, while he has taken only one part this year, had the outstanding success with "Ambrose" in "Captain Applejack".

Among the shorter presentations of the the year was "Drums of Oude", delegated to the Red Domino Club contest in Port Washington last fall. Besides winning the cup for first place, the coast forfeited the first and second prizes for individual honors to Lydia Mange and Albert Bower, respectively. Then a Christmas pageant included Lydia Mange as a student director, aiding our director, Miss Virgilyn A. Nickerson.

A group of one-act plays, all student directed, were aided by the ability of several Thespians.

At a recent meeting, eight new members were added to our list of National Thespians, including many outstanding for dramatic work other than acting. These are: Helen Healy, Robert Lauren, Cuyler Ten Eyck, William Wright, Joseph Talbot, Austin Ventres, Edward Williams, and Frederick Wittig. We would like to mention that this year's officers are as follows: John Dumbrille, president; Lydia Mange, secretary, and Claire Heimrod, treasurer. For next year the officers are Cuyler Ten Eyck, president; Claire Heimrod, secretary, and Helen Healy, treasurer. Our Troupe, No. 201, boasts thirteen members. We hope this number will not change our good luck of the past.

Troupe No. 209**Hillside High School
Hillside, N. J.**

The Hillside chapter was installed in February, 1932. There were five charter members, Rosemary Huber, Marion Short, Virginia Martin, Clark Vogel and Arnold Spoford. Virginia Martin was elected president and Marion Short, secretary.

The first year the members participated in plays, were active in stage work and publicity, and wrote several plays which were produced. At the end of the school year there were ten more students eligible for membership. It was largely due to the work of the Thespians that the annual "High School Night" play was an outstanding success. We gave "Once in a Life-Time" and it was enthusiastically received.

The Thespians have done a great deal in encouraging all phases of dramatics and the members of the club consider it a great honor to be elected. We are planning for big things next year under the able leadership of Miss Mary E. McKeever, our faculty advisor.

Troupe No. 210**Topeka High School
Topeka, Kansas**

Interest in drama and the stage in Topeka High School has taken some considerable strides forward this year with the added stimulus of a beautiful new auditorium that was constructed as part of the new \$1,900,000 high school building. The auditorium, with a seating capacity of more than twenty-five hundred persons, is beautiful in appearance, complete in furnishings, almost perfect as to acoustics, and seems more a theater than a school assembly hall.

The large stage is equipped with the latest design of lighting apparatus, fine new scenery, and commodious, well furnished, dressing rooms.

The first play to be given in the new auditorium was a one-act entitled "The Wedding". It was presented be-



TROUPE NO. 208
Edinburg High School, Edinburg, Texas
Miss Mildred Sapp, Director



TROUPE No. 209
Hillside High School, Hillside, New Jersey
Miss Mary E. McKeever, Director

fore the Missouri Valley Convention of Student Councils held in Topeka this year, and later given before the student body.

Following this came the three major productions of the year, all of which were under the direction of Miss Gertrude Wheeler, dramatic coach. Mr. J. H. Hoehner was in charge of the construction of scenery for all plays.

That ever popular comedy "The Patsy" was produced by the junior class.

The Masque and Wig Club, an organization that draws its members from both the junior and senior classes, combined its talents in presenting "Merry Andrew".

"The Whole Town's Talking", a comedy farce, was selected by the seniors for their annual dramatic offering.

Besides these three long plays, six one-acts were given by the play production classes instructed by Miss Wheeler. Three were given each semester.

Troupe No. 210 of the National Thespians was organized during the fall term, its charter members being selected from those who carried major parts in the junior play, "The Patsy", and last year plays, "The Goose Hangs High", "New Brooms", and "The Perfect Alibi".

Charter members include Paula McDaniel, Bert Dumars, Miriam Baker, James Youngman, Cleo De Camp, Jessie Loomis, Earl Feeley, and Joe Lovewell.

Those selected in the spring from the casts of "Merry Andrew" and "The Whole Town's Talking", are Lucie Collingwood, William Colvin, Gerald Gossett, Elsie Lillard, Allan Pett, Jack Sleeper, Archie Swan, Homer Utley, Elizabeth LaRue and Julia Jencks.

Millard Bryan, formerly a member in the Scotts Bluff, Iowa, Troupe, is also a member.

At the time of the initiation of the spring term candidates, a banquet, sponsored by the National Thespians

was held. To it were invited all persons directly interested in dramatics at Topeka High.

Joe Lovewell, Secretary.

Troupe No. 213 Central High School Red Wing, Minn.

Our first dramatic production this year was the all-class play, "Robin Hood". This proved to be a colorful play with plenty of action and attractive costumes and settings. For the junior play we chose the thrilling mystery play, "In the Next Room". Though most of the members of the cast were inexperienced, they gave a smooth, finished production, which was very well received by the audience. The senior play, "So This Is London", was presented by a well-balanced cast and was one of the most successful plays of recent years.

The High School Players Club, of which all Thespians are members, has held regular meeting twice a month during activity periods, and one evening a month. Ten one-act plays were produced by the club, many of which were given for assemblies and outside organizations. The most successful of these was "The Decision at Dawn", which was presented at the Washington Bicentennial celebration of the Masonic Lodge. Our final production for the year was a group of one-act plays including "A Friend at Court", "Pink and Patches", and "The Drums of Oude".

Eighteen students became eligible for membership in the National Thespians during the year. The gold certification cards were presented to members on Award Night, this being the first year that recognition has been given on Award Night for participation in dramatics, except when we have won trophies in one-act play contests.

Troupe No. 214

Carlisle High School
Carlisle, Pa.

Troupe No. 214 of the National Thespians was organized in the Carlisle Senior High School during the first semester of the year 1931-32. Ten charter members were then enlisted; there are now, however, fourteen members. The four additional members were initiated into the society May 12, 1932. They had taken major roles in our Dramatic Club production, "Miss Efficiency".

We held a meeting regularly every two weeks, at the homes of the members. These were looked forward to with great delight, for the programs were always very beneficial as well as enjoyable. At one meeting we gave one-act plays, at another we imitated well-known screen actors and actresses. We were also very fortunate to have a talented member of our town explain to us the art of make-up. We discussed lighting and sound effects as well as the best plays of the day.

We gave a very interesting program in our auditorium to give publicity to a coming play.

Several Thespians won honors in the declamation contest, and four of our members had parts in the senior class play, "Regatta", which was proclaimed the highlight of the season.

Although this was our first year, Troupe No. 214 is a huge success largely due to the untiring efforts of our dramatic instructor, Miss Etta Roop, and the prospect of the future is very bright.

Evalyn L. Barrick.

Troupe No. 215

Stambaugh High School
Stambaugh, Mich.

Troupe No. 215 of the National Thespians was organized February 15, 1932, under the direction of Miss Helen Dunham. Charter members were: Joe Dascola, president; Rueben Smith, vice president; Pearl Boden, secretary, and Ralph LaRocque, treasurer and prompter.

At the first business meeting it was decided to carry on the work of the local Dramatic Club, using membership in the National Thespians as the objective of each members. The officers of the local club and of the National Thespians were to be the same. Money earned by the club was to be used to pay installation fees of other Dramatic Club members. Any student not a member of the Stambo Hi Dramatic Club who was eligible to become a Thespian might do so if he paid his own installation fee. At each meeting roll call was to be answered by a comment on some theatrical subject. Plays, make-up, and principles of acting were to furnish program material.

To prepare students of the Dramatic Club for membership in the National Thespians, "As You Like It" was staged February 12, 1932. Scenery, properties, costumes and wigs were made by the students with the assistance of teachers. Later pictures were taken of scenes from the play, and a National Thespian Tea was given in honor of those not members of the club who had helped to make the play a success. At this tea the one-act play, "Not Quite Such a Goose", was presented. Thespian colors were used to decorate the table, blue and gold candles, yellow roses, and a large drawing of the Thespian mask being used.



TROUPE No. 214
Carlisle High School, Carlisle, Pennsylvania
Miss Etta Roop, Director

On April 7th two new members were installed: Tony Falcenelli and Leslie Christian.

May 31st three one-act plays were given to complete the eligibility of several students and to pay their initiation fees. These plays were: "Putting It Across", "The Far Away Princess", and "Sauce for the Gosling".

June 8th, a final installation was held at the American Legion rooms, at which time eight new members were installed. The Thespian charter was presented to the group. The year's activities closed with a social hour.

Troupe No. 222

Rye High School

Rye, N. Y.

We did not organize as a Troupe until June, because we feel that elections to all honor societies should take place at the same time. Thus the dramatic activities of the past year were not sponsored directly by a Thespian Troupe. We will say a few words, however, about our productions of the year.

In the fall of '31 the New Rye High School first opened its doors. One of the finest high school theaters in the country was ready for use. A new staff of instructors was to meet five hundred strangers. A new director of speech arts was to size up his available material for dramatic production. It was decided to first do a show that was simple, easy to produce, and one that would offer possibilities for all people to try out for parts and demonstrate their capabilities. Thus "The Youngest" was chosen and played two nights to approximately thirteen hundred people with great success.

A stage craft club of forty people was then organized. This consisted of a business staff, publicity staff, advertising staff, stage manager and assistants, carpenters, electricians, costumers, scene painters and ushers. With this interested group we were then ready to undertake more elaborate productions and next produced the musical comedy, "The Gypsy Rover" with a cast of about sixty people. With fine music, a beautiful stage set, and unusually good voices, we played one night to eight hundred people and again were unusually successful.

The students then wanted to do a show entirely different from the usual run of high school productions and Cape's "R. U. R." was decided upon for the spring show. Almost two hundred people of our five hundred students tried out for parts and the show got under way. Complete sets of scenery were built with the production costs exceeding three hundred dollars. Voices were raised against this gamble for a one night show, but Rye witnessed a show that will remain in its memory for many years to come. The newspapers devoted front page columns to its praises and our final show was over with success from all angles.

Our first year was a big one. It had to be so. We had precedent to set and we determined to set it at a high level. Next year we must maintain and surpass this level, and with the enthusiasm manifested in the past ten months we look forward to high grade productions in the season to come.

The National Thespians is now organized and will be a great aid to our theater and our school.

Don T. Brennan, Director of Speech Arts.

Troupe No. 224

Ravenna High School

Ravenna, Ohio

The National Thespian Troupe No. 224 was organized at Ravenna City High School on March 18. There are ten charter members: James Tondigelia, Harold Weudleken, Betty Coris, Virginia Motz, Hilda Austin, Robert Fass, Kathryn Fitzgerald, Dick Carroll and Virginia Haik. On May 16, six more members were taken in: Irene Holeman, Ruth Drugan, Mike Tontiamonia, Andrew Spencer, Glen Corbett and Eugene Neff.

During the past season the troop presented "Smilin' Through", "The Monkey's Paw", and "The Trysting Place".

Mrs. Margaret Snook is the director.

Troupe No. 225

Lincoln Community High School

Lincoln, Illinois

Troupe No. 225 was organized as a member of the National Thespians late in the school year of 1932, and consequently we had little time to do other than organize and hold one meeting. We are planning, however, to begin a real Thespian program for next year.

Our school deemed it an honor to have been accepted as a member of the National Thespians, and as soon as possible after we were notified that our charter had been granted to us, we held a meeting of the eleven students who were all members of the dramatics class and had been active either in the dramatic work of the high school or in the dramatics class. They were Virginia Abbott, Anna Louise Clark, Glenn Collins, Thomas Field, Louise Goff, Thomas Hayes, Hartford Larison, Wilford Leimbach, Amelia Shand, Mary Louise Wieber, and Ruth Ellen Zollars. The short ceremony was read by Clarence A. Miller, dramatics instructor and sponsor of Troupe 225. After the installation of the chapter, a brief meeting was held at which Ruth Ellen Zollars was chosen as the first president of the Troupe and Amelia Shane as the first secretary-treasurer. Plans were also made for a ceremony at which eligible students should be accepted as members.

Early in May, in the dramatics class room, thirteen students from every class in high school were accepted with due ceremony as members of Troupe No. 225. These students, who were eligible as a result of commendable work done in the annual and senior class plays, were Donald Richards, Laura Cutlip, John Fortran, Ralph Sparks, Betty Jo Larison, Eugene Crawford, Walter Sumski, Charles Dumser, Herbert Alexander, Dorothy Heitmann, Ralph LaBaw, William Depue, and Harry Jackson. Immediately following the impressive ceremony, the new members and the charter members were served tasty refreshments consisting of punch and cakes.

The dramatics department of our school produces two major plays each year as well as assisting in the production of a number of other school activities. One of these plays is the all-school play which is produced in the fall of the year for the benefit of the high school year book. Consequently it is called the annual play.

Any student in high school is eligible to try out for this play, and at least one member from each class is listed among the members of the cast. The response to the call for tryouts this year was exceedingly gratifying, for 140 students came to try out, either for parts in the play or for jobs on the technical staff. When one considers that our high school has a student body of approximately 700 students, twenty per cent interested in dramatics seems a good number. Next year we hope to have even more. The play chosen for the first production of the year was Aurania Rouverol's delightful comedy, "Skidding". The largest crowd that had ever attended an annual play at Lincoln, in so far as we could determine from records, witnessed our performance, which was spoken of in terms of highest praise by those who "know" as a production far above the average high school play. Each member of the cast handled his role with professional ease. Some very excellent character work was done by John Fortman as Grandpa Hardy, Laura Cutlip as the mother, Thomas Preston as Judge Hardy, Lewis Gordon as Aunt Milly, and Ralph Sparks and Thomas Hayes as the politicians. Louise Goff and Betty Jo Larison, the two young married sisters, presented an interesting contrast. Dalores Maurer and James Hale, as the two leads, gave fine interpretations to their parts. The cast was completed by Donald Richards, who as the lovable Andy, gave one of the outstanding interpretations of the evening as the typical "kid" brother. We were particularly pleased, also, with our set which was a perfect reproduction of a modern, old-fashioned living room. We achieved this effect through the use of wall paper, and you would be surprised at its effectiveness!

Our next efforts were turned toward the Christmas program in which we assisted by presenting a number of tableaux scenes to illustrate the cantata sung by the advanced girls' glee club. We achieved some very beautiful effects by the use of a blue cyclorama studded with stars and appropriately lighted for all the scenes, which portrayed the search for and finding of the Christ child.

The dramatics department and the music departments always combine their efforts in the production of the annual music comedy. This year we produced "Purple Towers". Our production was pronounced exceptionally fine in every respect, and each principal and member of the choruses united to make this musical comedy one of the outstanding "hits" ever produced in Lincoln. Almost 200 students were used in the production.

Immediately after the production of the musical comedy we turned our attention to the annual senior class play which was presented in April. As a contrast to the annual play, we decided to present George Cohan's famous mysterious melodrama, "Seven Keys to Baldpate", and we soon found that we had made no mistake in choosing this play, for it opened up admirable chances for staging, advertising, and acting. In all these things the production was a decided success. Again we achieved a fine set through the use of wall paper. Every piece of scenery and all the set props with the exception of the furniture were constructed by the stage crew, and the results were gratifying, for we reproduced Baldpate Inn in every detail. An elaborate advertising campaign was conducted in which an issue of the "Baldpate Gazette" describing the mysterious doings at Baldpate Inn, was a high spot. We shall be glad to furnish any of our suggestions to anyone planning to produce this play, for we really worked out a very thorough advertising campaign. Again, as in the annual play, the acting was all that could be desired from a group of high school students. Marshall Gates, as the hero novelist, in the minds of many who witnessed the production, left a high mark for future actors to "shoot" at. His work is always characterized by the utmost ease and gracefulness. Another bit of work was done by Glenn Collins as Lou Max, the ex-convict. Others of the cast, all of whom gave excellent performances that will be remembered for a long time by those who saw the play, were William Depue, and Louise Goff, splendidly cast as the old caretaker and his wife; Anna Louise Clark, the clever Myra



TROUPE No. 225
Lincoln Community High School, Lincoln, Illinois
Mr. Clarence A. Miller, Director

Thornhill; Thomas Hayes, the pompous little railroad president (and, incidentally, a splendid characterization and interpretation by a boy who was carrying his second role in a play); Hartford Larison, one of the real hits as Peters, the hermit; Stella Summers, the charming newspaper reporter; Martha Checkley, who was truly a "screaming" success as Mrs. Rhodes, the widow; Arthur Larson, the brow-beating sheriff; Charles Dummer, whose realistic interpretation of Bland was commented highly; Paul Clack, the policeman; and Frenzie Wooden, the owner of the Inn. And, our reputation for giving good plays was spreading, for we played to the largest crowd that had ever witnessed a high school production in Lincoln.

Our dramatic activities for 1932 were brought to a close by a production of a Washington pageant in place of the usual senior class day program. Eighty members of the graduating class took part in the pageant, "Another Washington", which was seen by a crowd of over 1500 people. "The pageant," said a newspaper write-up, "was historical, elaborate, and spectacular, and was a fitting gesture for the last of the students' activities."

In addition to these major events, we also sponsored a number of programs for community meetings and other events, so all in all, we felt that our dramatic program has been a fairly full one. We are anticipating an even more full year in 1932-33. With the added stimulus of the Thespians, and the fact that we have almost sixty students enrolled in the dramatics course, we are expecting to do great things. We are planning to produce more one-act plays than we have done in the past in order that more of our students will be given an opportunity for public appearances. These plays will be under projects to be followed out for this school year. Several plans are now in mind, but nothing definite has been de-

cided as yet. Interest in dramatics at Lincoln High School is high, and we hope that next year we shall be able to send a most enviable record in dramatics to national headquarters.

Amelia Shane, Secretary
Clarence A. Miller, Director.

Troupe No. 230

Pennsylvania Avenue High School Cumberland, Maryland

During the school year a troop of the National Thespians was established in our school. The dramatic club of the school presented "Bab", "Fiat Lux", "The Elopement of Ellen", and an assembly program during the year and five persons were eligible for the society. They were Luther Brotemarkle, Elizabeth Long, Maysville Owens, James Shoemaker, and Marion Witherup.

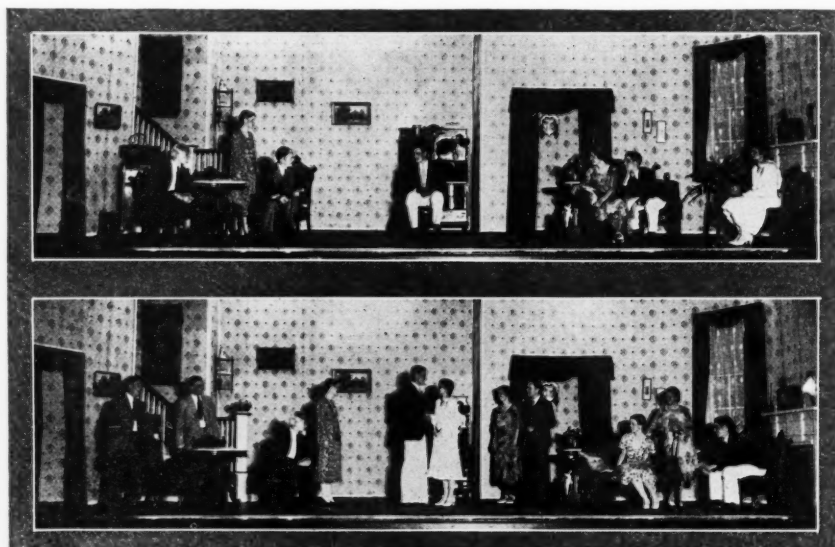
The club was organized and started to work immediately. The officers were:

President	Marion Witherup
Secretary	Luther Brotemarkle
Treasurer	James Shoemaker

After the club had been presented with the charter and the student body had learned of its existence the students immediately took an interest in dramatics. Everyone wanted to be able to get into this club, and when the tryout day for the next play came, about thirty presented themselves.

This year we feel has been very profitable and the persons in the club are glad they have been awarded a reward for their excellent work.

Luther Brotemarkle, Secretary.



"SKIDDING"
Troupe No. 225, Lincoln Community High School, Lincoln, Illinois
Mr. Clarence A. Miller, Director

Troupe No. 200

**Charleston High School
Charleston, W. Va.**

The Charleston High School Troupe No. 200 of the National Thespians has had a most pleasant and profitable year during the past school session. Though it was organized in Charleston High only last November, the lateness of our organization does not indicate the great interest shown for a number of years in dramatics in our school. They have always had a prominent place in school life and held a spot dear to the hearts of a great many students in the school.

Thus it was decided by the Curtain and Mask Dramatic Club that the only sensible thing was to join the National Thespians and thus provide recognition for those members of the club who were of most service and proficiency in this field as well as to gain, thereby, the feeling of national support which comes only through belonging to a national organization.

So in November our petition was granted and we organized, initiated ten members and elected officers. Officers elected were Jeanne Cook, president; Paul Newlon, secretary, and Charles Loeb, treasurer. All three officers had been previously shown their dependability in many ways and no uncertain terms. Jeanne had been a member of the Curtain and Mask Club ever since she was eligible, as a beginning junior, and all through her membership had been particularly active in committee work. She concentrated on costume work especially, worked hard as a member of a committee at first and soon was made chairman of this most vital phase of the work. No play in high school was put on for two years that did not feel her influence and contribution in some way and, during her last year, she took entire charge of all costuming of every play that was done. Such a service cannot be over estimated. It is this type of steady, dependable, and intelligent work that either makes a dramatic club function, or, if it is missing, makes it fail to function. Paul Newlon, too, had made his most decided mark on the entire field of speech. He was a splendid member of the debate team, being captain of the negative team, the only team in the history of Charleston High for the last five years, at least, which had the honor of being undefeated during the entire season. He, too, had been a constant and most efficient member of the Curtain and Mask Club all during his high school career, serving in any needed capacity from playing the lead of a play to serving in an inconspicuous capacity on any necessary committee. It is significant of Paul that he started his dramatic career playing a "walk-on" part in "Merton of the Movies" and then kept up such a steady growth and improvement that during his senior year he played in seven of the eight plays presented, and played well in all seven. He has played juveniles and character roles, leads and "bits" and been always "on hand" when and where needed. His position and the esteem in which the student body held him is well indicated by the fact that he was chosen as our "Representative Thespian" for the year. The treasurer, Charles Loeb, was also a member

of the debate team, and also a consistent and faithful member of the dramatic club. While playing an occasional part in the various plays, Charles devoted himself mainly to the financial end and business part of the game. And rare indeed was the play in which "Charlie's" hand was not seen and felt in the splendid organization of tickets, school publicity, and general promotion work. Charles will be back in school this year and the school is expecting great things of him.

With officers of such high caliber, and a membership as exclusively chosen and of such rigid qualifications, the troupe could not but go forward to a stimulatingly successful year. Other members were: John Albert, Phyllis Poffenbarger, Ruth Leamer, George Leslie, William Barringer, John Hurt, and Nancy Wren. It was deemed wise to keep the troupe very small, so only one new member met the rigid qualifications for membership during the entire year. The student to be so honored by this choice was Bernard Miller who was, also, a most faithful dramatic club member and a very clever player of character roles, particularly comedy ones.

The main event of the year, socially, was the Curtain and Mask banquet at which Thespian members were honored guests and furnished the entertainment for the rest of the club.

From a professional angle the really big event was the winning of the first place in the State One-Act Play Contest held at West Virginia Wesleyan, at Buckhannon, and sponsored by the National Thespians. Thespians presented the new one-act play, "Highness", with a cast consisting of Ruth Leamer, John Alber, Nancy Wren and Paul Newlon, and were awarded the much coveted first place plaque by the single expert judge, Professor Harry G. Wright, of Marshall College, Huntington, West Virginia. Two of those four also placed among the ten chosen as the "all-state-cast"—Ruth Leamer and John Albert. All Thespian members contributed to the success of this venture, as each member had some production duty to perform and did it willingly and well. The troupe is hoping to do an even better piece of work this coming year in the contest to be held at Huntington.

The next year's president of the Dramatic Club, John Albert, is also a Thespian. To him and to Mary Auld, a prospective Thespian of this year, came a most coveted honor. They were awarded two of twenty-four scholarships given to high school students all over the United States to attend a special summer course in drama given by Northwestern University, at Evanston, Illinois. Twelve high schools in the United States were chosen and from these twelve went a boy, a girl, and the drama instructor to attend this special session. Both Mary and John made splendid records for themselves and distinguished themselves in many ways. The school expects great things of them this year. John Albert was given one of five awarded scholarships to return next summer. The five were awarded on basis of excellence of work during the summer session.

With such a standard to live up to, the troupe feels a heavy sense of things expected of them this coming school year. It hopes to repeat the program of having eight plays during the year, to do well at the State contest, and to uphold in every way the high honor of the National Thespian Society.

Troupe No. 175**Gallatin County High School
Bezeman, Montana**

In the beginning of last year's school term only five of the original twelve charter Thespians were still attending high school. This was too small a group to take a very active part in play production or other activities. We set about, however, to make ourselves better known among the student body so that any students who were eligible would be anxious to become members.

We held regular meetings and usually the business was followed by instructive entertainment of some sort.

The Parrots, a local organization for dramatics, now acts as a sponsoring group to the Thespians. They play a very active part in dramatics, sponsoring every year a Little Theater Tournament and staging and producing at least one long play and many one-act plays. It is hoped that in time the Thespians will enlarge and replace the Parrots so that they will be the active group instead of having more than one.

We held only one initiation this year at which five new members were enrolled. Plans for another initiation did not materialize because of the unusually late production of the senior play.

Students at Gallatin County High School are offered a course in dramatics which includes makeup, dramatic art, stage setting and construction of scenery, study of plays, playwrights, actors and contemporary artists in the field of drama. This class builds the scenery and sets the stage for all high school productions. They also do the make-up not only for the school but for the outside functions and organizations as well.

In the year 1931-32 the two long plays produced in the high school were "The Big Idea" and "A Pair of Sixes". About 18 one-act plays were also produced during the school term. Many of these were student directed, and one of them was an original piece of work, written by one of the students.

There are many students at the present time who are eligible to Thespian membership, and are waiting for another initiation ceremony for their membership.

Birdena Leach, Secretary.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL OF THE NATIONAL THESPIANS

(July 1, 1932)

Troupe
No.

1. Natrona County High School, Casper, Wyoming.
2. Fairmont High School, Fairmont, W. Va.
3. East Fairmont High School, Fairmont, W. Va.
4. Cambridge High School, Cambridge, Md.
5. United Township High School, East Moline, Ill.
6. Weir High School, Weirton, W. Va.
7. Terrebonne High School, Houma, La.
8. Wilbraham Academy, Wilbraham, Mass.
9. Anaconda High School, Anaconda, Montana.
10. Belleville High School, Belleville, N. J.
11. Circleville High School, Circleville, Ohio.
12. Sac City High School, Sac City, Iowa.
13. Pennsboro High School, Pennsboro, W. Va.
14. Walnut Township High School, Pickaway Co., Ohio.
15. Roger Ludowe High School, Fairfield, Conn.
16. Harrisburg Township High School, Harrisburg, Ill.
17. Aurora High School, Aurora, Illinois.
18. Edray District High School, Marlinton, W. Va.
19. Morrilton High School, Morrilton, Ark.
20. Central High School, Cleveland, Tenn.
21. Coalinga High School, Coalinga, Calif.
22. Powell County High School, Deer Lodge, Mont.
23. Williamson High School, Williamson, W. Va.
24. Allegheny High School, Cumberland, Md.
25. Rush Creek Memorial High School, Bremen, Ohio.
26. Larned High School, Larned, Kan.
27. Morgantown High School, Morgantown, W. Va.
28. Charleston High School, Charleston, S. C.
29. East St. Louis High School, East St. Louis, Ill.
30. Big Sandy District High School, Clendenin, W. Va.
31. Peckskill High School, Peckskill, N. Y.
32. River Rouge High School, River Rouge, Mich.
33. Fairview High School, Fairview, W. Va.
34. Martinsville High School, Martinsville, Ind.
35. Wellsville High School, Wellsville, N. Y.
36. Triadelphia District High School, Wheeling, W. Va.
37. Geneva High School, Geneva, N. Y.
38. Albemarle High School, Albemarle, N. C.
39. Waukesha High School, Waukesha, Wis.
40. Hinton High School, Hinton, W. Va.
41. Lumberport High School, Lumberport, W. Va.
42. Hundred High School, Hundred, W. Va.
43. Iowa Falls High School, Iowa Falls, Iowa.
44. Savanna Township High School, Savanna, Ill.
45. Canastota High School, Canastota, N. Y.
46. Newton Senior High School, Newton, Kansas.
47. Vernon High School, Vernon, Texas.
48. Lincoln High School, Plymouth, Indiana.
49. Roosevelt High School, Wyandotte, Mich.
50. Batesville High School, Batesville, Ark.
51. Dalton High School, Dalton, Mass.
52. Washington Gardner High School, Albion, Mich.
53. Bridgeton High School, Bridgeton, N. J.
54. Beaver High School, Bluefield, W. Va.
55. Attica High School, Attica, Indiana.
56. Landon Senior High School, South Jacksonville, Fla.
57. Wichita High School East, Wichita, Kansas.
58. Danville High School, Danville, Ill.
59. Chisholm High School, Chisholm, Minn.
60. Spanish Fork High School, Spanish Fork, Utah.
61. Georgetown Township High School, Georgetown, Ill.
62. Missoula County High School, Missoula, Montana.
63. Belton High School, Belton, Texas.
64. Norwich High School, Norwich, N. Y.
65. Normal Community High School, Normal, Ill.
66. Amherst High School, Amherst, Mass.
67. Fergus County High School, Lewiston, Montana.
68. Dubuque Senior High School, Dubuque, Iowa.
69. Traverse City High School, Traverse City, Michigan.
70. East Aurora High School, Aurora, Illinois.
71. Alderson High School, Alderson, West Virginia.
72. Manistee High School, Manistee, Michigan.
73. Mt. Olive Community High School, Mt. Olive, Ill.
74. Union High School Dist. No. 5, Milwaukie, Oregon.
75. Waukegan Township High School, Waukegan, Ill.
76. Opp High School, Opp, Alabama.
77. Shelbyville High School, Shelbyville, Tennessee.
78. Port Arthur Senior High School, Port Arthur, Texas.
79. Dublin High School, Dublin, Ga.
80. Richmond High School, Richmond, Mo.
81. Mound City Community High School, Mound City, Ill.
82. Fredonia High School, Fredonia, Kansas.
83. Princeton High School, Princeton, W. Va.
84. Asheville Senior High School, Asheville, N. Carolina.
85. Eugene High School, Eugene, Oregon.
86. Logan County High School, Sterling, Colorado.
87. Point Pleasant High School, Point Pleasant, W. Va.
88. Dormont High School, S. H. B., Pittsburgh, Penna.
89. Elk City High School, Elk City, Oklahoma.
90. Isaac C. Elston Senior Hi School, Michigan City, Ind.
91. Hornell High School, Hornell, N. Y.
92. Stillwater High School, Stillwater, Minnesota.
93. The York Community High School, Elmhurst, Ill.
94. South Haven High School, South Haven, Kansas.
95. South Charleston High School, So. Charleston, W. Va.
96. Herkimer High School, Herkimer, N. Y.
97. Montevideo High School, Montevideo, Minnesota.
98. Weston High School, Weston, W. Va.
99. Mineral Wells High School, Mineral Wells, Texas.
100. Central High School, Cresco, Iowa.
101. Sheffield High School, Sheffield, Olabama.
102. Neenah Senior High School, Neenah, Wis.
103. Clift Senior High School, Opelika, Alabama.
104. Yuma Union High School, Yuma, Arizona.
105. Champaign High School, Champaign, Illinois.
106. Newport High School, Newport, Vermont.
107. Kenmone Senior High School, Kenmone, New York.
108. Carroll High School, Carroll, Iowa.
109. New Hampton High School, New Hampton, Iowa.
110. Burley High School, Burley, Idaho.
111. Norfolk Senior High School, Norfolk, Nebraska.
112. Elizabeth Dorr High School, Clarksdale, Mississippi.
113. Mount Vernon High School, Mount Vernon, N. Y.
114. Holidaysburg High School, Holidaysburg, Penna.
115. Mount Vernon High School, Mount Vernon, Indiana.
116. Scottsbluff High School, Scottsbluff, Nebraska.
117. Oswego High School, Oswego, New York.
118. Peoples Academy, Morrisville, Vermont.

120. Austin Senior High School, Austin, Texas.
121. Argo Community High School, Argo, Illinois.
122. Newport News High School, Newport News, Virginia.
123. Laconia High School, Laconia, New Hampshire.
124. Spencer High School, Spencer, N. C.
125. Sewickley High School, Sewickley, Pennsylvania.
126. Alton Community Consolidated High School, Alton, Ill.
127. Salem High School, Salem, New Jersey.
128. Pontiac Township High School, Pontiac, Illinois.
129. Helena High School, Helena, Arkansas.
130. Seminole High School, Sanford, Florida.
131. Monett High School, Monett, Missouri.
132. Anniston Senior High School, Anniston, Alabama.
133. Parsons High School, Parsons, Kansas.
134. C. E. Byrd High School, Shreveport, Louisiana.
135. Berlin Senior High School, Berlin, New Hampshire.
136. Wichita High School North, Wichita, Kansas.
137. Lamar Union High School, Lamar, Colorado.
138. Russellville High School, Russellville, Kentucky.
139. Bridgeport High School, Bridgeport, Pennsylvania.
140. Abington High School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
141. Sault Saint Marie High School, Sault Saint Marie, Michigan.
142. Bloomington High School, Bloomington, Indiana.
143. Shenandoah High School, Shenandoah, Iowa.
144. Boyce High School, Boyce, Louisiana.
145. Red Bluff Union High School, Red Bluff, California.
146. Pekin Community High School, Pekin, Ill.
147. Perry High School, Pittsburgh, Penna.
148. San Bernardino High School, San Bernardino, Calif.
149. Paragould High School, Paragould, Arkansas.
150. Stadium High School, Tacoma, Washington.
151. Winterset High School, Winterset, Iowa.
152. Elkader High School, Elkader, Iowa.
153. Malad High School, Malad, Idaho.
154. Holmes High School, Covington, Kentucky.
155. Jacksonville High School, Jacksonville, Illinois.
156. Oak Cliff High School, Dallas, Texas.
157. Liberty Memorial High School, Lawrence, Kansas.
158. Chillicothe High School, Chillicothe, Ohio.
159. Harlan High School, Harlan, Iowa.
160. East High School, Sioux City, Iowa.
161. Baker High School, Baker, Oregon.
162. Charleston High School, Charleston, Illinois.
163. Harbor High School, Ashtabula, Ohio.
164. Dunbar High School, Dunbar, Nebraska.
165. Eveleth Senior High School, Eveleth, Minnesota.
166. Morristown High School, Morristown, New Jersey.
167. Abington High School, Abington, Illinois.
168. Logan Senior High School, Logan, West Virginia.
169. Bluffton-Richland High School, Bluffton, Ohio.
170. Omaha Central High School, Omaha, Nebraska.
171. Grafton High School, Grafton, West Virginia.
172. Arkadelphia High School, Arkadelphia, Arkansas.
173. Central High School, Bellevue, Ohio.
174. Miami High School, Miami, Arizona.
175. Balatin County High School, Bozeman, Montana.
176. Butte High School, Butte, Montana.
177. Orlando Senior High School, Orlando, Florida.
178. Two Harbors High School, Orlando, Florida.
179. West High School, Ashtabula, Ohio.
180. Tuscola Community High School, Tuscola, Illinois.
181. Roosevelt-Wilson High School, Clarksburg, W. Va.
182. Lubec High School, Lubec, Maine.
183. Reitz High School, Evansville, Indiana.
184. Bloom Township High School, Chicago Heights, Ind.
185. Austin High School, Chicago, Illinois.
186. Ames Senior High School, Ames, Iowa.
187. South Brownsville High School, So. Brownsville, Pa.
188. Fairview High School, Dayton, Ohio.
189. Magnolia District High School, Matewan, W. Va.
190. Pottsville High School, Pottsville, Pennsylvania.
191. Webster Groves High School, Webster Groves, Mo.
192. Keokuk Senior High School, Keokuk, Iowa.
193. Simsbury High School, Simsbury, Conn.
194. Camas County Rural High School, Fairfield, Idaho.
195. Chouteau County High School, Fort Benton, Mont.
196. Hayden Union High School, Hayden, Colorado.
197. Mullens High School, Mullens, West Virginia.
198. Grove High School, Paris, Tennessee.
199. Williams High School, Williams, Arizona.
200. Charleston High School, Charleston, West Virginia.
201. Great Neck High School, Great Neck, New York.
202. Concord High School, Concord, North Carolina.
203. Barnstable High School, Hyannis, Massachusetts.
204. Lincoln High School, Jersey City, New Jersey.
205. Arkansas Senior High School, Texarkana, Arkansas.
206. Easton High School, Easton, Pennsylvania.
207. Union High School, Mount Vernon, Washington.
208. Edinburg High School, Edinburg, Texas.
209. Hillside High School, Hillside, New Jersey.
210. Topeka High School, Topeka, Kansas.
211. Jacksonville High School, Jacksonville, Texas.
212. North High School, Worcester, Massachusetts.
213. Central High School, Red Wing, Minnesota.
214. Carlisle High School, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.
215. Stambaugh High School, Stambaugh, Michigan.
216. Sunset High School, Dallas, Texas.
217. Cristobal High School, Cristobal, Canal Zone.
218. Panhandle High School, Panhandle, Texas.
219. Pana Township High School, Pana, Illinois.
220. Willoughby Union High School, Willoughby, Ohio.
221. Calhoun High School, Calhoun, Georgia.
222. Rye High School, Rye, N. Y.
223. East Hampton High School, East Hampton, N. Y.
224. Ravenna High School, Ravenna, Ohio.
225. Lincoln Community High School, Lincoln, Illinois.
226. Washington-Irving High School, Clarksburg, W. Va.
227. Jenkintown High School, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania.
228. North Side High School, Fort Worth, Texas.
229. Great Falls High School, Great Falls, Montana.
230. Pennsylvania Avenue High School, Cumberland, Md.
231. Milby High School, Houston, Texas.
232. Rosedale Junior Senior High School, Kansas City, Mo.

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Student enrollment for this year, No.....

Classification of school by State.....

No. of plays produced yearly.....

Names of plays produced this year.....

Present number of pupils eligible to membership.....

When will troupe be installed if this application is approved?.....

Signatures:Director of Dramatics

.....Principal or School
 (Approved) Supervisor.

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